



Ready for action: the 7th Armoured Division's Challenger tanks gather in the desert waiting to advance into Kuwait. The extension of the air offensive is giving ground forces vital extra time to prepare

## Moscow regret on violence in the Baltics

From MARY DEJEVSKY  
IN MOSCOW  
AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

PRESIDENT Gorbachev yesterday made a belated attempt to reassure the West that he had no intention of retreating from his policies of economic reform and glasnost, and offered his first expression of regret since the violence in Lithuania and Latvia which cost 19 lives.

His remarks formed part of a prepared statement which he read to Soviet and foreign correspondents at a hastily convened press conference in Moscow last night. Answering a single written question submitted in advance, Mr Gorbachev also sought to reassure the United States and other allied combatants in the Gulf that Moscow's policy remained firm. He said, however, that if the number of casualties of Iraqis and allied servicemen continued to rise, the situation might have to be reviewed.

Fears that the Soviet leader would announce the imposition of direct presidential rule in the Baltic states were temporarily allayed when he restricted himself to a condemnation of both sides in the recent incidents in Vilnius and Riga. He also distanced himself, as president, from the use of armed force in the two Baltic capitals. These events, he said, "are no reflection of presidential power and are not the reason why the presidency was introduced".

In what some saw as a toughening of his stance towards the Baltic governments, Mr Gorbachev reiterated his view that the parliaments of Lithuania and Latvia were acting in violation of the Soviet constitution and should repeal their anti-constitutional legislation without delay.

At the same time, however, he called on the armed forces not "to succumb to temptation, to observe military discipline", and to obey only commands given in strict accordance with the constitution. His phrasing implied condemnation of the army command in Vilnius, where a self-styled "national salvation committee" had apparently been instrumental in the deployment of tanks and machine guns to capture the Lithuanian television tower.

Continued on page 22, col 5

## Tel Aviv blocks of flats hit by Scud missile

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR, AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

AN EXPLOSION apparently caused by an Iraqi Scud missile ripped through a residential section of Tel Aviv and wounded a number of people yesterday, NBC News reported. The Voice of Israel radio report said the Scud missiles were not tipped with chemical weapons.

It did not specify how many were involved in the latest attack. "There's a tremendous amount of damage. I would say something like three square blocks of houses have been really smashed," said NBC correspondent Martin Fletcher in a live report from Tel Aviv.

"...There are a lot of people being carried out on stretchers," he said. Referring to crowds gathering around the blast site, Fletcher said: "The emotional level right now is rising as we see how many wounded there are."

It was the first Scud attack on Israel since the United States rushed Patriot anti-

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News, said he was standing on the edge of a crater and added: "Three square blocks have been smashed."

He said there was so much damage local people could not believe it had been caused by a single Scud missile.

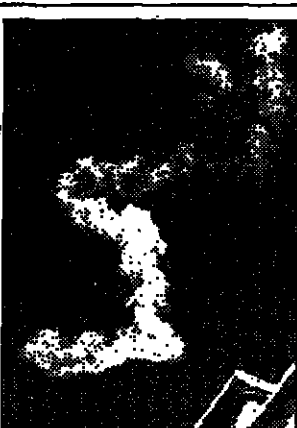
"All apartments have been smashed in a major way," said Fletcher. "There just have to be lots of injuries. I fear there have been many, many wounded."

In other Gulf developments yesterday, Iraq was reported to have blown up several oil installations in Kuwait, causing huge fires and dense smoke. Military and industry analysts said the move was apparently an attempt to provide a defensive smokescreen and to destabilise world oil markets.

The explosions occurred at oil wells and storage facilities in the al-Wafra oilfield on the Kuwaiti border with Saudi Arabia. But no destruction was reported from the neighbouring Burgan field, the second largest in the world, despite President Saddam Hussein's threat to destroy the entire Kuwaiti oil industry.

The attack against the oil wells came as a new Iraqi Scud missile attack was launched on Doha, yesterday evening. Patriot missiles intercepted at least three missiles close to the huge American military base. Orange flares lit up the sky as the Patriots streaked up to knock down the missiles, causing loud explosions which shook windows. A second wave of Scuds came 20 minutes later, and reporters heard another Patriot fired into the air.

"I have just seen two Patriots fired," one witness in Doha told a reporter. Western military sources said that all Scuds fired at Doha in the earlier raid had been shot down by Patriot missiles. Air raid sirens sounded during the day, sending people scurrying for shelter.



Runaway: the trail of a Patriot fired in error

## Panic over rogue Patriot

From BILL FROST  
IN INCIRLIK

AN INVESTIGATION was under way last night at the Incirlik Nato air base in southern Turkey after a Patriot missile was fired in error as American warplanes returned from a raid on Iraq.

At least four F111 fighter-bombers had to take evasive action as the weapon locked on to their flight path. People living near the base ran in panic, fearing an Iraqi missile attack.

The accidental launch came shortly after 1pm local time. A security officer at the base, who would not be named, said: "We do not know what happened. There was nothing on our radar to suggest an Iraqi strike. The Patriot was fired in error and then detonated by ground control. Someone will be in big trouble over this."

Fighter-bombers banked and weaved to avoid the Patriot. About 30 aircraft had landed before the accidental launch but at least four were making their final approach to the runway. The Patriot, fired from a battery on the western edge of Incirlik, looped slowly after launching and then locked on to one of the fighter bombers.

The missile appeared to match every evasive manoeuvre taken by the plane. After a minute or so there was an explosion and the Patriot's vapour trail disappeared. The four F111s circled several times before eventually coming in to land.

People living close to the

## RAF suffering highest rate of allied air losses

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN is suffering the heaviest losses in the allied air campaign, it was disclosed yesterday, as another RAF Tornado went down in a bombing mission. The pilot and navigator are missing.

Five Tornados have now been lost, one in a crash over Saudi Arabia. All had been flying at night. Eight British air crew are reported missing, including two who were paraded on Baghdad television on Sunday. The crew of the aircraft lost yesterday are known to have ejected, although there is no confirmation that they have been picked up.

Air Vice-Marshal Bill Wratten, the RAF commander in the Gulf, described the losses as extremely unlucky and attributed them to the particularly dangerous missions for which the aircraft are used.

The Tornado GR1s are hitting Iraqi airfields at very low level, and some may have ploughed into the ground while attempting to rise rapidly after dropping their runway cratering bombs, according to the latest assessment.

There is no confirmation that any have been hit by Iraqi anti-aircraft artillery fire, although the Tornados will have had to fly through "walls of flak" as they approached the runways.

Air Vice-Marshal Wratten, who is deputy commander of British Forces Middle East, said in Riyadh that the RAF, which had flown more than 400 sorties, had been extremely unlucky, but added: "Bad luck doesn't last forever."

The first Tornado, lost over Iraq, had an engine fire and the GR1 that crashed in Saudi Arabia had also developed a malfunction.

The commander was, however, confident of the success of the allied air campaign, which he described as immense, the like of which had never been seen before.

As Saddam Hussein continued to conceal his air force, Air Vice-Marshal Wratten said: "There is no way he can hide his aircraft from attack of one sort or another." Iraqi aircraft were being shot out of the sky whenever they came out of hiding. "The Iraqi air

force is being attacked whenever it appears," he said. "He is being attacked on the ground and when he appears, he is being attacked successfully in the air. The weather is the only thing that has been on Saddam Hussein's side in the last two days."

Britain has sent three squadrons of Tornado GR1s to the Gulf, about 36 aircraft, and one squadron of 12 Jaguar GR1s. The five Tornados lost, each worth about £19 million, will all be replaced.

The dangerous airfield attack mission was given to the Tornado because of its ability to fly very fast at low altitudes and because of its JP233 weapon, regarded as the best bomb of its kind in the world. The American F111s are also armed with "runway-busting" bombs, but none of these aircraft has been lost.

The allied aircraft losses, now totalling 19, include two American F15Es, two F16s, one FA18, two A6s and one F14; also one Italian Tornado GR1, one Kuwaiti A4 Skyhawk and one Saudi Tornado GR1.

Air Vice-Marshal Wratten said the RAF Tornado crews were not following standard textbook bombing techniques, but varying them to avoid Iraqi anti-aircraft fire. One technique has been to drop 1,000lb bombs instead, which can be tossed by the aircraft from outside the airfield's perimeter. Air Vice-Marshal Wratten said the tactics had evolved since the first day of the air attack. "We are not slavishly adhering to any set tactics."

No one yet knows why some of the aircraft have developed systems malfunctions. RAF sources said that no aircraft was sent on a mission unless it had been very carefully checked by the ground crews.

One senior RAF source said: "The Tornado has been pretty reliable. There were troubles to start with when it first came into service. We had fires in the rear end but that has not reoccurred for three years. We believe they are fine aircraft, particularly for this sort of mission. It's a very complex, highly tuned aircraft." There is no evidence

that the high loss rate has affected the morale of the RAF crews, who are fully aware that they have a "very demanding mission" and after each mission the airmen have appeared full of confidence.

To counter the impression that air raids had made little impression on some of the Iraqi targets, especially the oil refineries, British sources said that the precision attacks on oil refineries had halved Iraq's capacity to produce fuel. Although Scud missile launchers were still in operation, constant air attacks had had a marked effect on Iraq's ability to fire the missiles. There was also evidence that the Scud crews were so harassed that they were failing to set up the launchers properly and were hurrying back to their shelters as quickly as possible.

The latest figures for the number of Iraqi aircraft destroyed were given yesterday as about 22 from aerial combat and 12 on the ground. There were also a further 20 "probable" hits. The number of MiG29 Fulcrums destroyed was revised downwards from eight to six because two of the aircraft turned out to be Soviet Fishbeds.

## Opposition to CAP reform

Widespread opposition to proposals for reform of the European Community's common agricultural policy emerged in Brussels.

Britain, the leading critic of the policy in its present form, for once found itself on the same side as France. Page 22

## Cardinal's award

The Pope has approved the first stage in declaring Cardinal John Henry Newman a saint when he awarded him the title Venerable. Page 8

## Budget warning

The costs of the Gulf war could limit the scope for tax concessions in the Budget, says Norman Lamont. Page 23

## MCC's first win

England's cricketers scored their first victory in a first-class match in Australia when they beat Queensland. Page 40

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## Cloud gives armies welcome breathing space

From PETER STOTHARD AND MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

AS THE Pentagon publicly laments that bad weather is hampering the air offensive against Iraq, British and American ground force commanders are said to be privately relieved, according to senior administration sources.

The army and marine forces are simply not yet ready to fight a ground war, one well-placed official said. But the air offensive is now expected to take nearly twice as long as the ten days originally planned, giving them vital extra time to prepare.

The diversion of many allied warplanes, particularly those equipped for all-weather operations, to the top-priority hunt for Iraq's Scud missile launchers is also benefiting ground-force preparations. The Scud ground-force preparations. The Scud diversion, and poor weather meant that only 1,000 sorties were flown on Monday, half the planned number.

Two factors have made life harder for the men on the ground. It is understood that the allied forces were originally told to prepare for an air offensive beginning in late January, with the ground attack beginning towards the middle of February. That timetable was later compressed by President Bush.

Storms in the Bay of Biscay had meanwhile held up shipments of munitions and other vital supplies, some of which are still waiting to be unloaded at Gulf ports. According to authoritative reports here, Norman Schwarzkopf, commander of US forces in the Gulf, had barely half the munitions he required on January 16, the day Operation Desert Storm began.

Among the supplies on the way to the front is artillery for the British 4th Armoured Brigade, which will not be fully ready to fight until the middle of next month.

There is some nervousness that the

timetable for a ground attack, in which the British Desert Rats will almost certainly be on the "cutting edge", may again be compressed. On Monday, Richard Cheney, the American defence secretary, said there was no need to rush into a ground war. The United States was willing to let the air campaign run "for some period of time" while preparations for the ground offensive continued.

Independently corroborated information is still virtually non-existent, but American military spokesmen claimed yesterday to be "very encouraged" by the way the campaign was going. Les Aspin, who receives special briefings as chairman of the House armed services committee, said he believed the war was going "extremely well" though the lack of hard evidence was causing "heartburn".

Two polls yesterday showed that American public support for the war remained high, though the initial

enthusiasm had tempered. Americans also believed it would last longer than they had first expected.

A poll in *The New York Times* showed 75 per cent support, but only about 20 per cent believed the war would be over in a few weeks, half the number recorded last Thursday. A survey in *The Washington Post* also showed 75 per cent support, with 39 per cent saying the campaign was going better than expected and 50 per cent about the same.

The removal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait now seems to be only one part of a grander campaign to bring Iraq's military capability down to size for the sake of stability in the Middle East (Michael Evans writes). The removal of Saddam himself does not have to be an objective, provided his military might has been emasculated, although it would clearly be preferable if his regime were toppled.

Pressure for haste, page 2

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## COST OF CONFLICT

# Washington asks Tokyo and Bonn to pay more

From Susan Elliott  
in Washington

UNDER pressure from Congress and the American public, the White House has asked Japan and Germany to increase their financial contributions towards the cost of the Gulf war. Britain is expected to follow suit.

After meetings this week in New York with the finance ministers of both countries, Nicholas Brady, the US treasury secretary, said he expected Bonn and Tokyo to increase substantially their share of the burden. He gave no figures.

Then Waigel, the German finance minister, said his country would need to assess "the overall needs" of the campaign before deciding upon a sum beyond the \$3 billion (£1.5 billion) in aid already pledged. Ryutaro Hashimoto, Japan's finance minister, said he hoped Tokyo's additional contribution would not exceed \$10 billion.

A week into Operation Desert Storm, the Bush administration has still not revised its estimated costs of liberating Kuwait, despite a range of forecasts released by congressional and military experts. This reluctance to give precise figures stems from the unpredictable nature of the war.

Last week the Congressional Budget Office predicted that a month-long war would cost the United States \$28 billion if largely restricted to air battles, about 3,000 US casualties and the loss of



Brady expects substantial cash boost to finance war

200 aircraft and 200 tanks. It estimated the cost of a full-scale conflict could rise to \$86 billion with 600 lost aircraft, 900 lost tanks and 45,000 casualties.

Last September the administration estimated at \$15 billion the cost of maintaining around 200,000 troops in the Gulf without a war in fiscal 1990, which runs until 1 October this year. Mr Bush later doubled the number of American forces in the region.

Earlier this month the White House predicted the cost of Operation Desert Shield between last August and December 31 at about \$10 billion. It is not expected to comment further until President Bush releases his budget estimate for fiscal 1992 early next month.

For every anti-missile Patriot and Tomahawk cruise missile fired by the United States, the cost of the Gulf conflict rises between \$700,000 and \$1.3 million. In the first wave of allied bombing, the United States lost an FA18 fighter aircraft worth \$30 million and launched at least 100 Tomahawks.

Congressional experts have estimated that the outbreak of hostilities is adding a further \$600 million a day to the Pentagon's budget. Britain has estimated its costs for the first four days of the war to be more than £100 million, accounting for lost aircraft and ammunition.

Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, suggested to Mr Hashimoto this week that Japan might contribute to Britain's part in driving President Saddam Hussein's forces out of Kuwait. He was also expected to raise the topic with Herr Waigel.

The ultimate cost to the United States of the military operation in the Gulf depends on how much equipment it replaces. A spokesman for the defence department said yesterday the Congressional Budget Office's higher estimate of \$86 billion allowed for the replacement of all material lost in a long war.

The Gulf war is likely to be the most expensive ever fought by the United States. So far, it has received around \$6 billion in cash or kind from allies, including Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, although Congress has so far only given permission for \$1 billion of this to be spent.

## MERCY MISSION

By Nick Nuttall  
and Tim Jones

THE truck had no chance. As it moved across the Iraqi desert towards the American pilot of a downed Grumman F-14 Tomcat, high-technology air power was already on its way to the rescue. The Tomcat pilot's distress bleep had been pinpointed by E-3 sentry AWACs planes and his Red Sea based aircraft carrier also tracked down his signals.

Thousands of miles above geostationary spy satellites code-named Vortex and Magnum may also have picked up the distress signal. Two Fairchild A10 Thunderbolt II's, powered by General Electric TF34-GE100 turbo fans, flew from Dhahran to search for the Tomcat's two man crew. Known as the "Warthog" or

## STRATEGY

# Generals must resist pressure for haste

By Michael Evans  
Defence Correspondent

WHEN things go wrong in war, the pressure for decisive action to thwart the enemy increases. It is at these moments that political leaders have to be at their most steadfast, rejecting the temptation to order the troops forward prematurely.

In the Gulf war, there is a growing sense that the allied ground forces should be poised for an imminent strike against the Iraqi defensive positions in Kuwait. But the demand for an early attack should be firmly resisted.

There are many reasons why the allies are not yet ready for the bloodiest chapter in the war.

First, the air campaign still has a long way to go. No military commander could consider mounting an assault on such heavily defended enemy troops until ground-attack fighters, heavy bombers, anti-tank aircraft and helicopters have caused maximum disruption.

If the eight Republican Guard divisions are forced to move every time the allied bombers target their positions, their readiness for battle is impaired. The regular troops concealed in bunkers across southern Kuwait, and unable to move from their positions, can have no real concept of how the war has gone so far. When they get a taste of allied firepower from the air, their ability or willingness to fight will also be diminished.

Second, General Norman Schwarzkopf, overall commander of the allied forces, has to achieve tactical surprise. He cannot have strategic surprise because he is now openly moving armoured and infantry divisions up to the border.

But if he ordered his troops straight into battle, once they were all properly deployed, there

## ALLIED CLAIMS

**SORTIES:** More than 10,000 allied air missions flown since the start of the war. The air force of the Gulf nation of Qatar took part yesterday in the missions for the first time. US Navy aircraft sank two Iraqi boats, including a mine laying craft, on Monday.

**LOSSES:** A fifth British Tornado lost yesterday which left two crewmen missing. This took the allied aircraft losses to 12. Twenty-seven allied military personnel dead or missing, including 13 American and eight British. Yesterday Iraqi television showed two more allied prisoners of war. This brought the numbers of allied POWs shown on Iraqi television to five Americans, two British, one Italian and one Kuwaiti. 30 Iraqi aircraft destroyed, including 17 shot down, two on Monday, 45 Iraqis killed. Twenty-three Iraqi POWs still being handed by US Marines yesterday before being

**IRAQI RETALIATION:** Kuwaiti oil wells and storage tanks at the Wafra oilfield set on fire by the Iraqis. Six Saudi missiles fired at Saudi Arabia yesterday. Ten Iraqi Scud missiles fired at Dhahran, and Riyadh in Saudi Arabia on Sunday night. Ten destroyed by Patriot missiles; two fell in sea. On Friday, one Iraqi Scud fired at Dhahran, destroyed by Patriot. Eight Iraqi Scuds hit Israel on Friday and Saturday mornings. 28 people injured in Haifa and Tel Aviv.

would be no tactical surprise. Ironically, the opposite argument was used for the start of the air campaign. How could the allies be sure of achieving tactical surprise when the United Nations Security Council deadline of

## IRAQI CLAIMS

**LOSSES:** 31 Iraqis killed. Iraq said yesterday it had shot down 18 allied aircraft and missiles in just under 12 hours from 8pm on Monday. Previously it had said that 160 allied aircraft had been shot down and that one cruise missile had been downed over Baghdad. At least 20 captured allied pilots to be used as human shields at strategic sites. Baghdad yesterday accused the allies of targeting Muslim shrines.

## WAR AIMS

UN Security Council resolution 678 authorises Kuwait's allies to "use all necessary means" to uphold previous resolutions calling for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and the restoration of its legitimate government. Resolution 678 also calls on the nations assisting Kuwait to "restore international peace and security in the area". An earlier appeal, made during the Iran-Iraq war in resolution 598 (1987), for "measures to enhance the security and stability of the region" has not yet been fulfilled.

Announcing the outbreak of hostilities, US President George Bush said: "Our goal is not the conquest of Iraq, it is the liberation of Kuwait." He added, however, that: "We are determined to knock out Saddam Hussein's nuclear bomb potential. We will also destroy his chemical weapons facilities. Much artillery and tanks will be destroyed. Our operations are designed to best protect the lives of all the coalition forces by targeting Saddam's vast military arsenal."

January 15 was the implied signal for battle to commence?

But there was surprise because the Iraqis, and everyone else not privy to General Schwarzkopf's plan, had been led to believe that the allied bombers would be held

back for several days in the hope that President Saddam Hussein might offer to withdraw once the UN deadline had passed.

Thirdly, the logistical support for an allied ground offensive is unlikely to be ready yet. Armoured and mechanised divisions began moving up only a few days ago. Advancing without the proper back-up would be suicidal. Tactical commanders have to be the ones to decide when the time is right for an advance.

The experience of British military commanders in the Falklands campaign in 1982 should serve as a reminder that hasty military operations have a potential for disaster. When 3 Commando Brigade landed at San Carlos, a bridgehead was constructed to provide a secure logistical base from which to advance against the Argentine forces. But once the news of the successful British landing had filtered back to London, there was great political pressure for the troops to break out of their bridgehead.

After several days of no action, MPs in the Commons demanded to know why the forces had failed to move out from the bridgehead. The reason was because Brigadier Julian Thompson, commander of 3 Commando, wanted more time to complete the logistical operation. In spite of his explanation to London, he was sent a signal from Fleet Headquarters at Northwood in Middlesex, ordering him to move out immediately.

The order originated from Downing Street. Although he would have liked two or three more days to complete the logistical arrangements, Brigadier Thompson was forced to move his units out of the bridgehead.

Fortunately, the order from London did not have disastrous

consequences. Because Britain was facing a largely supine enemy, the first ground battle, at Goose Green, overwhelmed the Argentine forces. But the Falklands war lasted only 28 days on a very small battlefield. Today more than a million men confront each other on the Kuwaiti border. An early, and quick, ground war is unrealistic.

Fourthly, American and British political objectives are gradually expanding. The removal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait now seems to be only one part of a grander campaign to bring Iraq's military capability down to size for the sake of stability in the Middle East. The removal of Saddam himself does not have to be an objective, provided his military might has been emasculated, although it would clearly be preferable if his regime were toppled.

If this is a true reflection of government thinking in Washington and London, it could mean an advance by American and British forces into Iraq itself. Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, hinted at this possibility at the weekend. Such a high-risk campaign would require an extended logistical supply line, which is another reason why the ground attack on Iraqi forces in Kuwait cannot be contemplated until all the rear echelon support services are ready.

In the meantime, before a land offensive, the focus of attention has to be on Saddam's Republican Guard. The aim will be to pin them down with concentrated firepower and air attacks to prevent them making any counter-strike against the allied troops.

This objective will remain unchanged, however many ups and downs there are for the allies over the next few weeks.

## DECOY TACTICS

# Iraqis use deception to confuse allied jets

THE Iraqis have adopted Soviet camouflage tactics by establishing dummy missiles, aircraft and buildings at military installations to confuse allied aircraft carrying out bombing raids (Michael Evans writes).

Some of the claimed hits on Iraqi ballistic missile launchers might have involved attacks on dummy systems, which is why the allies have had to reassess the number of Scuds that are still in operation. British sources said yesterday that the Soviet Union had taught Iraq how to camouflage a whole range of military equipment.

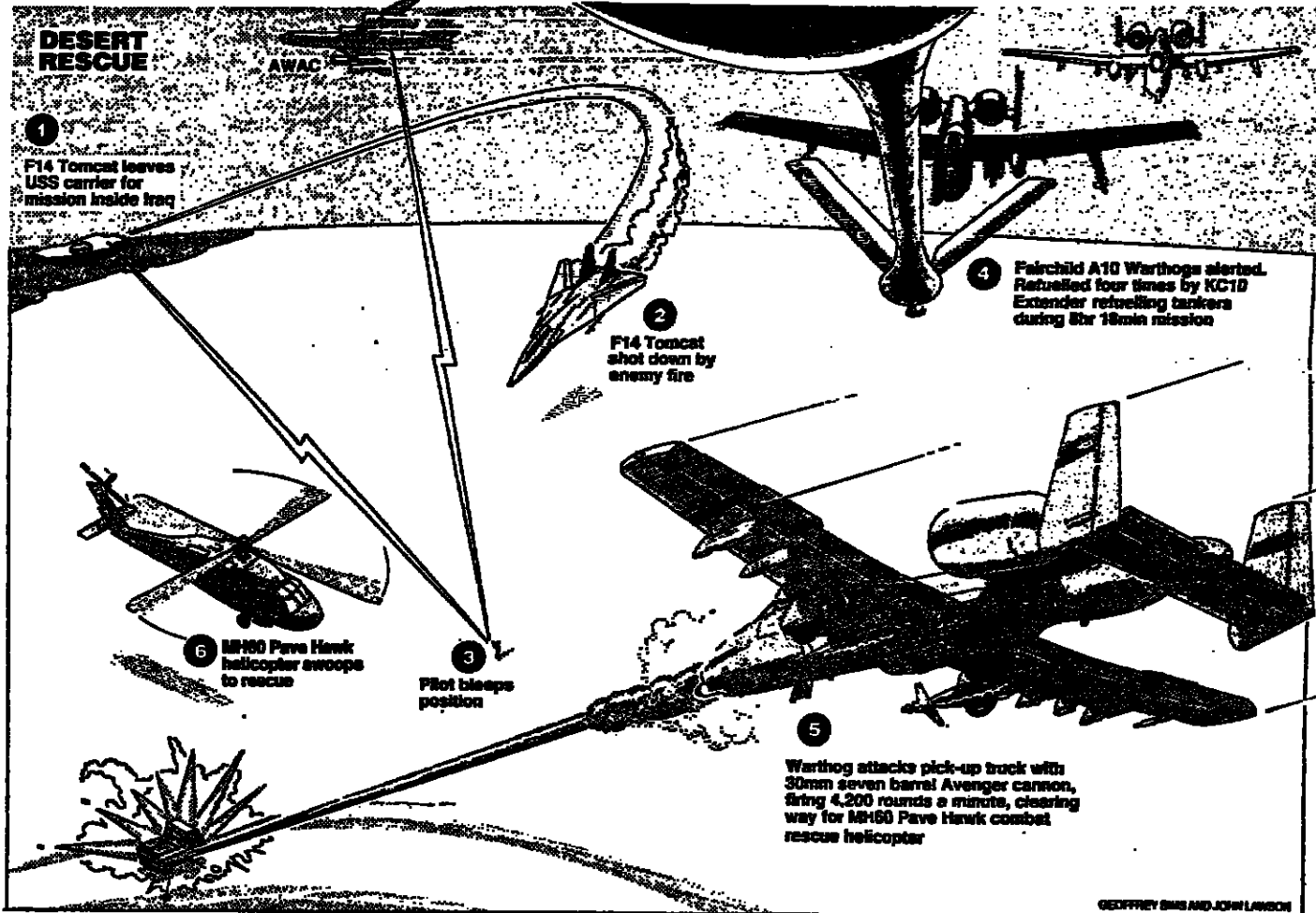
Satellite photographs show that the Iraqis have put plastic Scud missiles between genuine launchers in western Iraq, at the sites threatening Israel. The fake launchers have been equipped with signal transmitters, making it difficult for allied pilots to target the real missiles, especially in bad weather conditions.

British sources said there was evidence that the Iraqis had built dummy storage sites on some of the huge chemical weapons facilities, and that cardboard aircraft were sitting on runways to deceive allied bombers.

Military commanders are aware of the technique, but the Iraqis have apparently succeeded in drawing some allied firepower away from the real target.

One British source said: "The Iraqis have managed to knock up some dummy erector launchers for Scud missiles which look very like the real thing. The Soviets have developed camouflage to an enormous extent, even creating dummy airfields. The Iraqis have developed some of these techniques, by mixing dummy installations with genuine ones."

Although allied forces are likely to be using infra-red systems to spot the dummy equipment and installations, British sources would not comment yesterday on the techniques being employed to see through the camouflage.



## BEHIND THE LINES

# Pilots tell of rescue mission into Iraq

From Denholm Barnetson  
in Eastern Saudi Arabia

AN AMERICAN navy pilot was rescued from behind Iraqi lines on Monday, in a daring eight-hour mission, at the same time as President Saddam Hussein was parading captured allied airmen on Baghdad television.

Members of the rescue party ventured deep into enemy territory and picked up the aviator who had parachuted into the open Iraqi desert after his jet was shot down.

In the midst of the operation, while the pilots waited for a rescue helicopter to arrive, an Iraqi lorry appeared and began driving towards the stranded pilot. The crew of the A10 Thunderbolt II tank-buster plane, known as the Warthog, opened fire with their 30-millimetre Gatling guns. The lorry, struck by the armour-piercing shells, erupted in flames just 200 yards from the downed pilot.

Captain Randy Goff, aged 26, one of two A10 pilots who took part in the mission, said: "Unfortunately the truck was in the wrong place at the wrong time. We couldn't afford to have him be there."

"My heart was pumping," said Captain Goff, who appeared to acknowledge that the driver may have been an Iraqi civilian. "Things are happening rapidly," he said.

Captain Paul Johnson, the other A10 pilot, said: "It's just a coincidence it showed up when it did." He said the lorry approached to within 200 yards of the rescue site and "looked to be driving toward my survivor".

A rescue helicopter picked up the downed navy pilot at the end of the mission, which lasted 8 hours and 18 minutes. Captain Goff and Captain Johnson had to refuel in the air four times.

For the 354th Tactical Fighter Wing, to which the A10 pilots, belong, the rescue was a badly needed shot in the arm after seeing the Baghdad television pictures of the captured pilots.

"It really galvanised us, said the wing's commander, Ervin C. "Sandy" Sharpe. "Especially because of that," he added, pointing to a television picture of captured allied pilots being held in Iraq.

The rescued pilot was not immediately identified. But officials said he was unharmed — and grateful. "He is rather pleased to be where he is tonight," said Captain Johnson, aged 32.

Air Force spokesmen said the rescued navy pilot had ejected after being hit by ground fire and parachuted into a wide-open expanse of Iraqi desert.

Captain Johnson said: "There has been a telephone message, I understand. It's pretty much unprintable, but yes, he's real pleased."

Captain Johnson said that the pair, specially trained for missions involving missing aircraft from different services, spent about half of the mission time flying over Iraqi territory.

## OILFIELDS

# Experts say reserves underground will not be set alight

By Martin Barrow

IRAQ's threat to set Kuwait's vast oilfields ablaze has been carried out swiftly. American aerial photographs show that oil wells and storage tanks in the Wafra oilfield in the neutral zone on Kuwait's southern border, which is shared with Saudi Arabia, have already been blown up. Allied strategists expect oilfields further north to suffer a similar fate.

On Monday Carl Sagan, a leading American scientist, said that the simultaneous setting on fire of all of Kuwait's oilfields could shut out the sun for a year and cause agricultural failure

worldwide. But the Meteorological Office refused suggestion, saying it was unlikely that smoke oil fires at ground level would be thrust into the stratosphere. In a worst-case scenario of all the wells burning together for a year, it said, the smoke plume downwind of Kuwait might locally affect both sunlight and the Asian monsoon.

However, oil analysts believe that Iraq can cause relatively little long-term damage to the oilfields, destroying only a fraction of Kuwait's huge reserves of crude, even if fires at the well-heads are not extinguished for

several months.

News of the fires had little impact on oil markets because Kuwaiti crude, included in the economic embargo of Iraq, has been easily replaced by increased production in Saudi Arabia. In London the price of oil rose \$1.33 a barrel to breach \$20, reflecting traders' fears that there will be no quick victory for the American-led forces in the Gulf.

Kuwaiti oilfields contain about 10 per cent of the world's known deposits of oil. The country has proven reserves of 94.5 billion barrels, which is exceeded only by Saudi Arabia, with reserves of

255 billion barrels, and Iraq, with 100 billion barrels.

Before the invasion Kuwait was producing 1.5 million barrels a day, a level which could be sustained for about 180 years without new oil discoveries being made.

Oil price shocks in 1973 and 1979, when the cost of crude rose and then fell sharply, convinced Kuwait's rulers of the need for greater control of its oil, from the wellhead to the petrol pump.

Substantial investment was made during the 1980s to develop some of the world's most advanced refining capacity, able

to convert up to 750,000 barrels a day into petrol, lubricants, heating oil and naphtha. These refineries will also be targets of Iraqi sabotage.

But wellheads, which are relatively simple structures, are easier to destroy using explosives to start a massive fire as the oil gushes under immense pressure to the surface. The crude underground, devoid of oxygen, does not catch fire and the geological structure remains undamaged.

Peter Bogin, an assistant director of Cambridge Energy Research Associates, a consultancy, said: "It is a myth that you can

blow up Kuwaiti oilfields. A lot of oil will be burnt, possibly several hundred million barrels of crude, but that is only a fraction of Kuwait's reserves. The oil will burn until it is put out and that is very dangerous work. But it will not be the disaster that many have predicted."

In addition to the disputed Rumaila oilfield, which straddles the border with Iraq, Kuwait has eight principle principal fields, all within 100 miles of Kuwait City, with 360 producing wells linked to the country's network of pipelines.



## Correspondents in the war zone report on the progress of Operation Desert Storm

BAHRAIN

## Base tense as Jaguars leap into action against Iraqis

FROM LIN JENKINS IN BAHRAIN

LIKE ducklings following their mother the RAF Jaguars, grounded by weather for two days, yesterday taxied towards the runway for take-off on Operation Longstop.

As the first of the single-seater bombers roared down the runway, closely followed by another, each with their pink desert camouflage skillfully customised with paintings ranging from an innocuous Snoopy to a risqué red-dipped vamp in stockings and suspenders, adrenalin levels reached a peak.

Preparations for the mission had begun hours earlier. Inside the cramped white-walled operations room, hidden behind a wall of concrete-filled steel drums and sandbags, the pilots sat in silence, pens poised over pads.

Flight Lieutenant Steve Thomas's discussions with the men revolved around how best to destroy the Iraqi ammunition dumps which were to be their target. Technical terms, figures, speeds

and co-ordinates were flung to and fro. To the baffled observers, he explained: "We get a target position and then we decide which weapons are best for taking out that target. It is called weapons-to-target matching."

"From there we work out how we can best get the maximum effect from these weapons, how to survive and how to come home."

Watches were then synchronised: Zulu time to the RAF, GMT to the layman. The crew filed into the minibus, flight plans under arms and on to where the ground crews were preparing the planes. The bombs were then loaded, with some aircraft carrying 1,000lb weapons, others two pods of CRV-7 missiles and rockets.

Within half an hour, the bomb load was on board and the pilots climbed in to be strapped in by their line-ies — the flightline crew who prepare the plane. The waiting then began. Half an hour passed while each pilot sat in his cockpit with his previous hits painted clearly on the fuselage behind him. No one could have guessed the thoughts flashing through their minds.

Soon enough, the activity resumed and the line-ies ran through a series of hand signals to which the pilots responded by moving rudders, checking the brakes and revving engines. With a final IFF (identification friend or foe) check, to ensure that they would not be mistaken as hostile aircraft by American surveillance aircraft, it was checkmate.

As the deafening roar faded, the planes vanished from view in seconds. One taxied back, grounded by a face mask which would not stay on because of a loose screw. Squadron Leader Mike Rondot was speechless with disappointment.

As the hour and eight minutes ticked away, an eerie silence hung over the base. Then they came into sight, and as each aircraft touched down, the ground crew counted loudly. "One, two, three..." until all were accounted for. At last, every one could heave a sigh of relief and afford to smile. As the pilots got out, they punched the air, each other and shared jokes, before, perspiring and breathless, they were taken to a debriefing.

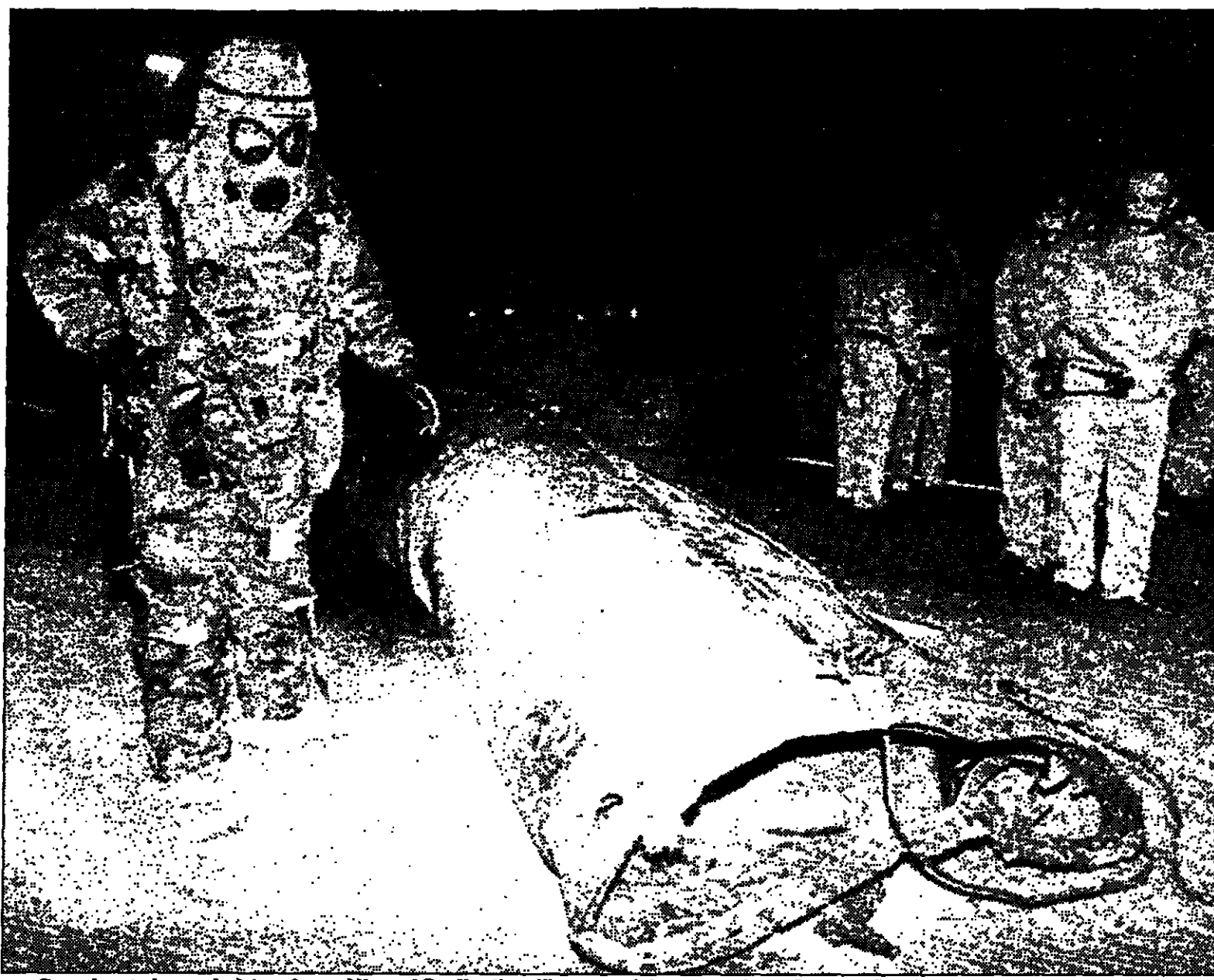
Flying Officer Malcolm Ratner summed up the mission as he emerged from his cockpit. "We came out of the haze, saw the target and bum! Piece of cake."

As the men swaggered off, the Jaguar port burst into life as the ground crew worked to get the planes ready for action within two hours. Warrant Officer Mick Cartwright, aged 54, who controls ground operations, watched with tears in his eyes as the pilots went for their debriefing. "I feel for those guys more than most. I have got a son older than most of them. We are all rooting for them."

"Every time they go out, my stomach churns and it keeps on churning until they come back. It is not a nice feeling. The longer they keep coming back the better it will be. I am so close to those boys, they are like sons to me."

The debriefing establishes the success of the mission.

Professionals only, page 14



Ground control: a masked American soldier and Saudi police officers examining the wreck of a Scud missile, which crashed on to a street in the Saudi capital, Riyadh, after being intercepted by a Patriot missile. There were no casualties reported

SAUDI ARABIA

## British workers brave Scud attacks

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN EASTERN SAUDI ARABIA

WAVES of Scud missile attacks from Iraq yesterday continued to terrorise eastern Saudi Arabia. "We are all extremely concerned. Anyone who says he has not been frightened is an idiot and a fool, or possibly both," said Phil Champness, the manager of the large British Aerospace operation in Dhahran, employing 1,500 British civilians, most involved in servicing Tornados and other strike aircraft.

Mr Champness, a former pilot who flew Hawker Hunters in Aden, was speaking after the first daylight attack on Dhahran, during which one Scud was intercepted. Only hours later at least three more Scuds were believed to have been hit by Patriot missiles in explosions which shook buildings for miles around. By

nightfall yesterday Dhahran had been targeted by modified Scud B missiles three times in less than 24 hours.

At Saudi Arabia's largest air base, Mr Champness and many of his staff are dressed permanently in the camouflage trousers of their nuclear, biological and chemical protection outfits. "That does not mean there has just been an alert," he said reassuringly. "It is just that I am lazy. When the sirens go, I can throw on the jacket and gas mask and be prepared for whatever comes at us."

On Monday, 104 employees of British Aerospace returned by special RAF aircraft after their Christmas break. Since the Gulf confrontation erupted on August 2 and the outbreak of war only 31 employees have handed in

their notice, and most of those as a result of family pressure from home. Since the war began last week, the number who have quit is put by Mr Champness "in single figures".

In contrast, many American and other expatriate employees of the giant oil concern Aramco have been clamouring to leave Dhahran, accusing the company of not taking sufficient security precautions against the Scud attacks.

An angry memo by the employees said: "We did not sign on with the intention of risking our lives so the company could continue to pump oil during a regional war that, unfortunately, involves company operating areas. We hope that Saudi Aramco management will take immediate steps to temporarily reduce staff and evacuate all non-

essential personnel from the region."

"Like most people in this area at present, our main problem is lack of sleep," Mr Champness said, speaking after the second night in a row in which the sirens had repeatedly woken people in Dhahran and the 22 compounds used by company staff in the war zone. Sleeplessness has bred forgetfulness and there have been increasing instances of people fleeing to underground shelters and forgetting to take their gas masks. "What is frightening people most is the unknown quality of any chemical attack," Mr Champness said.

A review of the residential facilities of the British Aerospace workers — many of them ex-servicemen — is under way because their compounds, like most Saudi residential projects, were designed without shelters. "I have been taking cover behind the stairwell, as that seems the safest place in my villa," said Mr Champness, sitting in an office under a large photograph of

the Queen and Queen Mother with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia. "In the office, we have designated a safe room with two outer walls and a reinforced concrete roof. But we do not have a shelter as such."

Many British Aerospace staff working on the al-Yamamah project, Britain's largest export order for military hardware worth hundreds of millions of pounds, blame the United States intelligence services for failing to provide information that Iraqi Scuds would be able to reach Dhahran in such daunting numbers. Recently, the company was told that they did not have the range to reach here.

"The one thing that has saved the situation so far is the Patriot anti-missile missile system," said Mr Champness, whose office is sited close to one of the box-shaped missile defence batteries which now ring the Dhahran air base. "They have added a completely new meaning to the word 'patriotism'."

Leading article, page 15



Desert patrol: Saudi truck drivers reporting to a control manned by American troops in Saudi Arabia

## Egypt warns Sudan on dam

Cairo — Egypt warned Sudan yesterday that it would face severe consequences if it allowed Iraq to use its territory to attack the Aswan High Dam. President Mubarak said in televised remarks that Sudanese officials would be held personally responsible for any attacks.

Egypt's Middle East News Agency reported from Khartoum on Sunday that pro-Iraqi demonstrators burned the Egyptian flag and called for attacks against the giant Soviet-built dam on the Nile in southern Egypt.

"I will not allow under any circumstances that an inch of Egyptian territory be attacked," Mr Mubarak said. (Reuters)

## Journalist safe

Perth — Bruce Cheesman, aged 35, a British-born Australian journalist who disappeared in Baghdad after the city was bombed by allied planes, called his parents to say he was alive and well in the Iraqi capital, but gave no reason for his absence. (AP)

## Muslim appeal

Cape Town — South Africa's Muslim Council of Theologians has asked President de Klerk to allow a 10,000-strong force of South African Muslims to support President Saddam Hussein in Iraq, a spokesman for the president's office confirmed here. A spokesman said Mr de Klerk was giving attention to the matter. (AFP)

## Bogus bomb

Amman — Police removed a fake bomb from an Amman branch of the British Bank of the Middle East after a telephone threat, a senior bank official said. Bomb disposal experts found the device in a folded newspaper on a counter at the bank branch. (Reuters)

## Pacifists flee

Ramallah — Fourteen pacifists who set up a "peace camp" near the Iraqi border with Saudi Arabia arrived in Jordan after fleeing from the Gulf war. The group, which included five Americans, arrived by bus from Baghdad at Jordan's border post here. (Reuters)

## Desert link-up

Muncie, Indiana — Kandy Green and John Lee, an army reservist, were married by a judge here via a telephone call between Saudi Arabia and the United States. The couple had planned to marry before the groom was called to the Gulf. (AFP)

## 'To Saddam Hussein, with all our contempt'

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN EASTERN SAUDI ARABIA

SUCH is the animosity towards President Saddam Hussein that there is no need for any newspaper to invent slogans for American airmen to inscribe on their bombs, such as *The Sun* devised during the Falklands war. The airmen have already done it.

The messages reflect the bitterness felt for the Iraqi leader, a man who has become the focal point for the frustrations of all American servicemen, for the boredom, desolation, flies and heat of the hated Saudi desert, the beerless nights and time away from family and friends.

Among the US Air Force's crack 82nd Airborne Division, the crude slogans scrawled in white chalk on the laser-guided Hellfire missiles attached to the formidable fleet of Apache attack helicopters spoke for themselves. A random selection demonstrated sentiments often expressed more forcibly by individual crew

members: "Up yours, Saddam baby", "It's about time", "I am gonna get you sucker", "Here's looking at you Saddam", "Any last requests?", "This is for 5-plus months in the desert", "What is the last thing to go through an Iraqi's mind? A Hellfire".

It was the same story at another airbase from where F117A stealth bombers have been taking off on regular missions against targets in Baghdad. Again the messages were directed personally at Saddam, but this time on 2,000lb "smart" bombs attached to the underbellies of the sleek black warplanes.

The Pentagon-controlled censors appeared embarrassed by one clearly-written message: "Hussein, if Allah does not answer, ask for Jesus", but their efforts to suppress it have been rejected by newsmen as it had no bearing on operational security.

On an adjacent bomb, Airman First Class Gina Maskunas, aged 22, had written: "We care enough to send you the very best from the US". She said

that hardly a bomb went out without a slogan attached. "It just makes you feel better."

Staff Sergeant Brad Bowers said: "It looked like a New York City bathroom in the subway with all the graffiti. It is a way of expressing yourself, of taking your aggression out." He added that the favourite on the first set of bombs dropped by the stealth bombers was "We walked 10,000 miles to smoke a Camel", but that had been discontinued when it was recognised to be "insulting" to local Arabs.

Experienced war correspondents said it was hard to remember any conflict since the second world war when the feelings of the servicemen had been so fiercely channelled against the persona of the rival leader.

"I do not think there is a guy on the line who would not want to put a missile on Saddam Hussein's house," Chief Warrant Officer Timothy Bricker said. "He has taken away five months from us. He has taken a lot of

guys from their wives and their girlfriends."

James Cox, a supply technician for an Apache helicopter, agreed that the war was seen as a personal fight against a man President Bush had likened to Hitler. "We know he will never be able to read the messages. It is like a personal vendetta. I gave him my two bits. He is going to know I was here," the Texan added.

Sergeant Raul Guillen, another young Texan, said he held Saddam personally responsible for a "Dear John" letter he was sent last September, the month he was due to get engaged. "I want him," the sergeant declared bitterly. "It is his fault that I am here. I just want to go in and do it."

Military analysts believe the wealth of slogans show the American forces will fight with a special determination, but they are also seen as a reflection that many men here do not care or understand the Middle Eastern complexities that underlie the war.

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## ISRAEL

# Tel Aviv seeks more aid after military deal with America

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN JERUSALEM  
(Dispatch contains only material passed by the Israeli military censor)

BASKING in worldwide approval and a new-found cordiality with Washington, Israel yesterday said it had asked the United States for an additional \$13 billion in aid.

Following the dispatch of advanced Patriot anti-missile batteries with American crews to Israel at the weekend, Israel and the US yesterday signed a "status of forces" agreement giving US personnel "privileged status" in Israel and Israeli personnel the same status in the US. Officials said the agreement was modelled on those in force between the United States and its Nato allies when American military personnel were based in their countries.

But Israeli leaders denied that these moves amounted to a quick pro quo for Israel's restraint in the face of Iraqi missile attacks. After attacks on Friday and Saturday, Israel passed a third night without incident. But the army is keeping the public on alert and has warned that President Saddam Hussein can be counted on to try again, possibly with chemical weapons.

Addressing the parliamentary foreign affairs and defence committee, David Levy, the foreign minister, said after talks with Lawrence Eagleburger, the Assistant US Secretary of State, that they had agreed to establish a "joint co-ordination apparatus".

He said Israel did not require American permission to retaliate. Israel was not interested in engaging in adventurism and had no

wish to kindle a wider conflagration. But he said Mr Bush had undertaken to explain to America's Arab allies Israel's situation and the circumstances under which it might be forced to act.

After the first missile attacks on Israel, the allies sought to eliminate missile-launchers in western Iraq, but have had limited success. Mr Levy said one Israeli fear was that under public pressure, partly because of the impact of Iraq's alleged mistreatment of allied POWs, America might try to end the war faster by launching a ground war. This would remove allied pressure on Iraq "on the second front facing us". He said the US had clearly overestimated the effectiveness of its initial air assault on Iraq.

Moshe Arens, the defence minister, visiting an Israeli air base, also said Israel did not require an American go-ahead for retaliation. "Any actions we take in the defence of Israel are not contingent on receiving permission from anybody," he said. Israeli warplanes are on a 24-hour alert, with pilots permanently in the cockpit, ready to take off within 90 seconds. The F15C can fly to Baghdad and back without refuelling.

Life returned to normal yesterday, but civil defence precautions remain in place. Yitzhak Mordechai, the finance minister, who also met Mr Eagleburger, said the Gulf conflict had cost Israel at least \$1.5 billion (\$769 million) so far in lost revenues, including tourism. Israel receives \$3 billion a year in US aid. But Mr Mordechai said Israel was seeking further aid partly because of losses and partly to meet the cost of absorbing Soviet Jewish immigrants.

He said Israel would need foreign aid amounting to 20 billion dollars to absorb one million Soviet Jews expected by the end of 1992.

Knesset sources said Mr Eagleburger appeared to have been sent to Israel with wide discretionary powers to set the seal on new US-Israeli arrangements to cement the cordial and close relationship which had developed between the two countries because of the Gulf war, following an earlier and much frostier period of relations. Some officials have expressed concern that increasing co-operation might be seized on by the Arab world as proof that Israel and the United States are in close alliance, at a time when the US is keen to maintain its coalition with Arab partners such as Syria and Egypt. But Israeli defence experts said there was "no embarrassment" in admitting that Israel needed foreign aid, including the temporary presence of American troops on Israeli soil. Officials have stressed that the American crews operating the Patriot anti-missile batteries are not permanently stationed but are training Israeli crews and can be expected to leave "within weeks".

Mr Mordechai, asked directly if American financial aid was dependent on an Israeli promise to keep out of the war, replied: "I can say with certainty and decisiveness that no such promise was given, nor concerning this aid or any other aid." He said that Mr Eagleburger had not tried to impose conditions. "It seems to me that our guest understood very well that this is not the time to play with all kinds of political conditions for bureaucratic procedures," Mr Mordechai declared. He said Israel had not submitted specific financial requests through Mr Eagleburger but had made its needs known.

Observers believe the American envoy will be taking his cue from those remarks and will be taking the first steps towards repairing damaged relations with Jordan, reassuring the king that despite current difficulties, he remains a long-term friend of the West.

The visit underlines concern in Washington that as the war develops, Jordan could move closer to Saddam Hussein. The king, who surprised and annoyed the American and British governments by leading the Iraqi president his conditional support after the invasion of Kuwait, is under increasing pressure from his militantly pro-Iraqi population to throw in his lot with Baghdad.

So far he has limited himself to strong denunciations of the allied bombing offences, to call for a negotiated settlement to end the fighting, and to warning that Jordan will not tolerate violations of its sovereignty.

Among the latest manifestations of anti-American feeling here have been calls from politicians in both houses of parliament for Arabs to rise up in a holy war against Washington and its allies and glee at the fate of captured British and American pilots shown on Iraqi television. Yesterday about 500 women demonstrated outside the American embassy calling Mr Bush a "butcher of children".

A youthful 44, with a precise and dry manner, General Shai is a former television journalist. His understated comments on the antics of Western television correspondents are based on his own experience as the military correspondent of Israel TV. His inside knowledge of defence matters stems from a long association with Moshe Arens, the defence minister. General Shai was Mr



For and against: a demonstrator dressed in the American flag waves the Stars and Stripes in support of American troops in the Gulf opposite the White House, while, below, Jordanian Palestinians in Amman protest against the bombing of Iraq



## GERMANY

## Kohl torn between domestic angst and pressure for bigger war effort

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BONN

DRIVE down any residential street in Bonn's opulent suburbs, and before long you will pass a house with a homemade banner displaying the one emphatic word: *Nein*. While tens of thousands of young people have taken to the streets to shout "no" to war, the angst about Germany becoming involved in the fighting has been growing daily in the windows of the middle classes.

To the concern of the government, many of the demonstrations have been anti-American and, to a lesser extent, anti-British. Police have been deployed at bases and a permanent vigil has started outside the American embassy in Bonn to protest against "the bombing of innocent people".

In an effort to soothe American and British sensibilities, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the foreign minister, yesterday sent telegrams to James Baker, the US Secretary of State, and Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, expressing his outrage at the treatment of captured prisoners. "The German people watched with shock the television pictures of the captured soldiers in Iraq," Herr Genscher said. To Mr Baker he added: "We are bound in friendship and solidarity to the American people, to whom we owe so much."

Herr Genscher called in the Iraqi ambassador to protest at the treatment of the prisoners but could offer nothing concrete towards the war effort. Bonn is being increasingly embarrassed by infor-

mal pressure, especially from Britain and the United States, demanding that Germany contributes more to the war effort.

There is, however, no question of troops or airmen being sent to join in any fighting. Politically and legally the chancellor does not have the option of committing German forces, despite the promise he made to President Bush only two months ago that Germany was ready to meet its new responsibilities as a world power.

The demonstrations in the streets and the notices in the windows show that the public is totally against German involvement and unhappy that the government did not do more to try to prevent the fighting. The anti-war mood undoubtedly contributed to the defeat of the Christian Democratic coalition in Hesse at the weekend, and Helmut Kohl, the chancellor, must fear long-term harm to his party even if he does no more than offer vocal support for the military operation.

Herr Kohl has been widely criticised for agreeing to send aircraft and Luftwaffe personnel to Turkey as a token force against any attack. The aircraft are stationed out of operational range of the border and Herr Kohl has promised that even if Turkey is attacked they will not fight unless a majority of the Bundestag gives its approval. Yesterday, however, Hans-Jochen Vogel, leader of the opposition Social Democrats, said in the Bundestag that it was time

to consider bringing back the aircraft. Opinion polls show that a vast majority nationwide would support this.

It now appears impossible that the chancellor can keep his promise to amend the constitution in a way which would allow German troops to serve outside the Nato area with the UN. Such an amendment would require a two-thirds majority in the Bundestag.

Herr Kohl can only help by sending money, and this week he reluctantly agreed to pay considerably more towards the costs in the Gulf. Germany has so far said it has set aside DM3.3 billion (£1.2 billion). However, almost half of this was money already earmarked for aid in Jordan,

Egypt and Turkey, while nearly half of the rest comprised unwanted equipment such as water tankers and lorries from the old East German army.

Even though Herr Kohl accepts that Germany must pay more towards the cost of the war, the chancellor first wants to see a breakdown of how the money is being spent.

He has been more forthcoming about providing money for a "Marshall plan" for the Middle East, which would be started once a political settlement of the problems in the area had been agreed.

This promise has a double advantage to Germany. First, the money would be invested in goodwill enterprises after the fighting is over, limiting the damage to relations with Arab countries. More importantly, it would delay the need to find the cash, possibly for several years.

With the costs of unification soaring, the chancellor is hard pressed to find any extra money. He has been warned by the Kremlin that Germany will be asked to pay considerably more than the agreed DM13 billion towards taking Soviet troops out of eastern Germany.

Committed as it is to bolstering President Gorbachev, Bonn is under strong pressure to maintain and increase aid to the Soviet Union. The government can think of no better way to stop a return to hardline rule in Moscow than sending in more money.

The normally bustling, brightly lit centre of Israel's cast life, Tel Aviv, has become a ghost town.

During the day, even though life has returned to semi-normality, people walk about with gas masks over their shoulders, starting at every car alarm. At night they scurry home and wait for the real thing. Tel Aviv's beachside hotels are empty.

The Hilton, on the other hand, is flourishing, for the simple reason that the hotel — which stands opposite the British embassy — has been taken over by General Shai and the army as their Tel Aviv press centre.

The company has also benefited in Jerusalem, where the Hilton again serves as the official press centre. Most of the press (as usual) have occupied the famed American Colony Hotel in Arab east Jerusalem.

Some journalists, however, are staying in west Jerusalem, on the ground that the Palestinians, who still support President Saddam Hussein, are not quite as friendly to Westerners as they used to be.

## IRAQ

## 'Crimes' of allies denounced on radio

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

IRAQ claimed yesterday that allied aircraft and missile raids had killed women and children and destroyed places of worship in what it called a "horrendous crime".

"Baghdad and other Iraqi cities were struck by missiles. Women, children and old people were killed. Even places of worship were not spared from their aggression in the most horrendous crime known so far in both ancient and contemporary history," said Baghdad state radio, which was monitored in Cyprus.

It quoted a statement by the National Assembly, a 250-member house that consistently endorses government policies, as saying that Iraq was a firm believer in peace.

It accused the allies of violating international law, the United Nations Charter, and human rights accords under the pretext of international legitimacy and the umbrella of the UN Security Council, which it said had become a tool of American policy.

The assembly's statement referred to President Saddam Hussein for the first time as "Habib Allah and habib rasoul Allah", the loved one of God and the Prophet Muhammad.

The phrase is usually reserved for Muhammad himself or his disciples. Iraq has depicted itself as the protector of Arabs and Muslims since its invasion of Kuwait on August 2.

The statement described President Bush as "the enemy of man and humanity, the murderer of children and the thief of good and justice".

Iraq said earlier that American pilots damaged the national museum during an air raid on Baghdad yesterday, injuring a number of archaeologists and other specialists. It said a baby milk factory was hit in the capital on Monday.

Iraq also accused the multinational allied forces of attacking Muslim shrines in Iraq, and said they would be avenged with guerrilla suicide missions.

"The crime of the aggression against the sacred sites in Najaf, Karbala and other sacred places, as well as the destruction of the ancient and historic St Thomas Church in Nineveh, were all intentional and deliberate," said Baghdad radio.

Iraq claimed that guerrilla suicide attacks on the forces of the allied coalition would change the pattern of the war in the Gulf. "The holy anger... will add new factors by escalating suicide operations to punish the criminals and murderers," the radio commentary said.

Iraq hinted last week that its pilots, flying suicide missions, would attack the allied ships in the Gulf.

The radio said the war was between faith and technology. "The historic movement of the Arab and Islamic nation is our weapon, while the computer and electronics are theirs."

"The duel between the two groups has intensified. Victory is for the faithful... faith is our weapon while theirs is infidelity," it said.

Addressing Saddam, the radio said: "All the faithful are all right as long as you are the leader of the faithful. We are all right as long as we are fighting the infidels."

"Here is the sky of Baghdad, the sky of the homeland, embroidered with the stars of dignity and pride," it added.

The radio said the war with the multinational alliance was "the duel that all the good sons of Iraq, the Arab homeland and Muslims everywhere have been awaiting. It is the historic opportunity that will not occur again in this age."

The radio quoted *al-Thawra*, the ruling Baath Party newspaper, as saying that Iraq had prepared for a long war and the fighting so far "was only the beginning".

## JERUSALEM NOTEBOOK by Richard Owen

## General mobilises the press corps in public relations war

As the war nears the end of its first week, the boyish, bespectacled figure of Brigadier-General Nachman Shai is becoming familiar to journalists and to the Israeli public. As in the previous five Middle East wars since 1948, the army public relations operation has swung smoothly into action. The more gun-bo of the visiting correspondents have donned flak jackets or even, on occasion, full chemical warfare suits, all of which General Shai observes with the faintest trace of a smile.

A youthful 44, with a precise and dry manner, General Shai is a former television journalist. His understated comments on the antics of Western television correspondents are based on his own experience as the military correspondent of Israel TV. His inside knowledge of defence matters stems from a long association with Moshe Arens, the defence minister. General Shai was Mr

Arens's spokesman when he was Israeli ambassador to Washington in the 1980s.

But the general, who in the past has clashed with one or two military commanders over media handling of the intifada, is developing a short way with the foreign press when it comes to censorship rules. Since war started, the application of censorship has been unusually strict.

When the first Iraqi missiles hit Tel Aviv, journalists were asked not to be specific about the targets, as such information could be useful to the Iraqis as they calibrate future missile launchings. After an American television network correspondent showed viewers a detailed map of Tel Aviv and pointed out the bomb crater sites, a tight-lipped General Shai warned reporters not to reveal such information again, pointing that we, too, were in the target area.

"If you wish to commit suicide, gentlemen, please be so good as to do so outside the country."

Controversy over the prominence of Benjamin Netanyahu, the deputy foreign minister, on Western television, particularly in America, has reached the point where David Levy, the foreign minister, has taken to cancelling Mr Netanyahu's too-frequent press briefings. Mr Levy speaks

no English and is therefore at a disadvantage.

Yesterday the *Jerusalem Post*, which vehemently supports Mr Netanyahu and his right-wing views, criticised Mr Levy for "allowing petty reasons to hamper Israel's public relations". None the less, most officials are pleased with the image Israel is receiving because of its restraint.

The emergency has caused particular problems for the ultra-Orthodox areas of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. When Saddam attacked Israel on Saturday, the chief rabbi had to issue an edict authorising Orthodox Jews to listen to the radio (forbidden on the sabbath) to hear civil defence instructions.

Above all, those with long, bushy beards face a difficult theological problem when instructed by the authorities to shave in order to wear a gas mask. Further rabbinical dispensation allows them to do so,

but a stroll through the ultra-Orthodox district of Jerusalem reveals that few of the residents have used a razor. "If there is a gas attack, I am in God's hands," one Orthodox Jew said. Government ministers from the Orthodox religious parties had made only a token effort to set an example by trimming their beards more neatly.

There are a large number of bearded secular Israelis, not to mention foreigners, for whom the problem is not so much one of conscience as of vanity. Your own correspondent, who has been bearded for 20 years, now has what is best described as designer stubble, a phrase which has no equivalent in Hebrew or Arabic, even though Yasser Arafat, the PLO chairman, can be said to have set the fashion years ago.

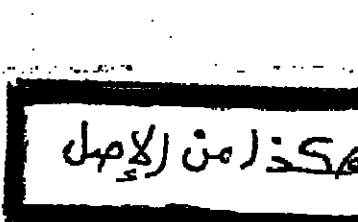
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The Hilton, on the other hand, is flourishing, for the simple reason that the hotel — which stands opposite the British embassy — has been taken over by General Shai and the army as their Tel Aviv press centre.

The company has also benefited in Jerusalem, where the Hilton again serves as the official press centre. Most of the press (as usual) have occupied the famed American Colony Hotel in Arab east Jerusalem.

Some journalists, however, are staying in west Jerusalem, on the ground that the Palestinians, who still support President Saddam Hussein, are not quite as friendly to Westerners as they used to be.



Gen

Gen



## MEDIA

# Satellite TV group chosen by Saddam has image troubles

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN AMMAN

WHEN President Saddam Hussein wants to know how his war with the allies is proceeding, he does not contact his few remaining diplomats left in the Western capitals, nor does he attempt to reach his commanders on the ground, many of whom have been cut off from Baghdad by allied bombing raids on communication lines.

In his underground bunker the Iraqi leader can be briefed with the latest information as quickly as President Bush or John Major simply by turning up the volume on his television set, which is tuned constantly to Cable News



CNN: global broadcaster

Network, the Atlanta-based 24-hour satellite news service. For years the underdog below the three main American networks, CNN has come into its own during the five-month Gulf conflict by running more news and more live coverage than any of its competitors. However, with the outbreak of hostilities in

the Gulf and the key role of propaganda in the battle to influence Western and Arab public opinion, CNN's extraordinary position as a global broadcaster and its special relationship with the Iraqi regime has begun to harm its image.

As well as being an avid viewer, Saddam has also seen that CNN is probably the only foreign television organisation, aside from his own Iraqi television, to have broadcast in full his unedited speeches and interviews and video films of himself taken live off Iraqi television.

When the last of the Western newsmen was expelled from Baghdad on Sunday, it came as little surprise, therefore, to those journalists being ordered to leave, that CNN had been given permission to remain behind. The organisation's Peter Arnett, a veteran war correspondent, said CNN had been selected by the Iraqis for its "impartial" reporting of Gulf developments.

Certainly much of the recent criticism that the organisation became "too close" to the Iraqi regime is levelled by colleagues envious of this world exclusive. Some of them are also guilty of broadcasting unedited interviews with Saddam, which were granted only with the precondition that no cuts would be made.

In spite of professional rivalries CNN nevertheless runs the risk of being manipulated by a regime which has shown itself agile disseminating its propaganda. Mr Arnett, whose reports are censored by officials from the Iraqi information ministry, and his editors, will have to be careful that they are not used by the Iraqi authorities.

A similar charge was made against ABC News during the 1985 TWA jet hijack in Beirut, when its correspondents, through their good contacts with Shia Muslim militiamen, succeeded in clinching a series of interviews with American hostages to the point where the journalists were being accused of manipulation by the hostage-takers.

At this early stage of the Gulf conflict it is impossible to tell what long-term effects CNN's coverage of the war will have, but politicians and soldiers alike in Washington are determined that there will be no repetition of Vietnam, when the media was accused of losing the war by undermining public support at home through its coverage.

Leading article, page 15  
Media, page 13

## Editors fall into line and opt for subdued loyalty

FROM CHARLES BRENNER, NEW YORK

UNITED States generals went into the Gulf conflict worried that they would be at war with their country's editors. So far, their fears seem misplaced.

Despite the greatest media fire-power ever, America's television, radio and press have, at least for the moment, dropped their traditional adversarial voice and fallen patriotically into line.

It has been an axiom of the US military and many politicians that the media lost Vietnam. The national resolve, they held, had been worn down by relentless reports of horror and military bungling from free-roving correspondents. This time, the Pentagon set out to control the pictures and information and has largely succeeded.

The Defence Department, learning from its successes in Grenada and Panama, where no cameras accompanied the troops in action, has restricted reporters to tight "pools" subject to censorship. What little information has been divulged on the air campaign has been disseminated without comment.

"The Pentagon is smiling," said Mary McGregory, a dissenting columnist in the *Washington Post* yesterday. "It controls the news as it controls the skies over the desert."

Television networks and the press, applying a dose of self-censorship, have followed a line of subdued loyalty reminiscent of reporting from Korea or during the second world war. Even the few

newspapers which initially opposed President Bush's decision to press for military action - notably *The New York Times* - have put aside their qualms in favour of the national interest.

Bob Greene, a Vietnam-era reporter who is now a columnist for the *Chicago Tribune*, said: "The generals are, at least temporarily, being accorded a level of veneration that, not so long ago, would have been considered improbable."

The patriotic mood was sharpened further with the broadcast pictures of captured airmen. The ABC network, one of the "big three", decided against airing the stilted messages apparently coerced from the captives. The home commentators have been providing an upbeat, sometimes poetic gloss. On all the networks except CNN, retired generals and colonels and academics are interpreting the meagre information.

Yesterday, however, the first unease over the Pentagon's veracity began appearing after the generals conceded on Monday that their initial statements on Iraqi losses may have been optimistic.

The head of CNN's Washington bureau said he was concerned about being used. "What we're getting is part of the truth - I don't think we're being lied to," he said.

The *Washington Post* commented on its front page: "Much of the information about the war is government-issue."

## BUNKERS

## British designs save Iraqis

BY PAUL WILKINSON

ONE of the reasons why allied airpower has yet to seriously confront Saddam Hussein's airforce could be that it is being safely conserved in several hundred British-designed "super-bunkers".

The concrete and steel shelters were completed well before the Gulf crisis began. They are sited at eight new airbases, three of them in the north of the country, where many of Iraq's aircraft are said to have been moved away from allied attack.

They are built to specifications far in excess of Nato requirements. There are up to 300 of the hardened hangars, each capable of holding one or more aircraft, according to a report on BBC's *Newsnight*. Each is buried in the desert sand, partly to camouflage them, but mainly to give an additional layer of protection. They have steel roofs with a reinforced concrete cover 4ft thick, more than 18in thicker than that used by Nato.

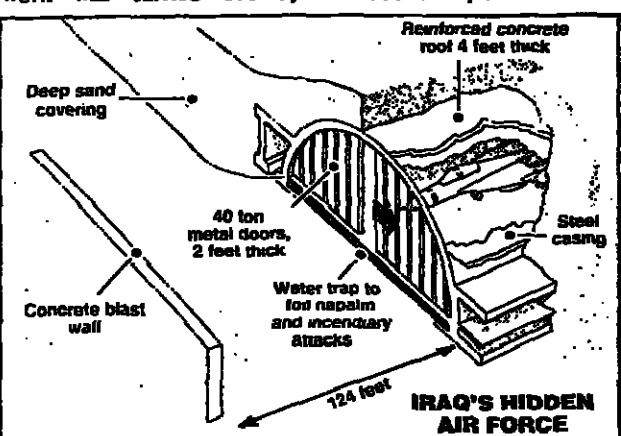
Twin sliding doors, made of

a steel and concrete sandwich almost 2ft thick and weighing 40 tons, seal the entrance. They, in turn, are protected by a concrete and sand blast wall.

The design was part of a multi-billion pound contract for the Iraqi Ministry of Defence, the BBC has maintained. Plans were drawn up by an unnamed British structural consultancy and the work was carried out by

Belgian and Yugoslav engineers.

The Ministry of Defence has refused to say whether it had sought information from the designers on how the bunkers could be cracked, saying it was "an operational matter". Later it said "as you would expect, we have been in touch with anybody who could give us useful information about Iraq".



## FUND-RAISING

## Lessons of Falklands errors learnt

BY ALAN HAMILTON

CHARITABLE funds launched at moments of high national emotion have an unhappy tendency to turn uncharitably sour. Tom King's announcement on Monday of a Gulf Trust to channel the nation's seemingly boundless goodwill into tangible assistance to the war's victims immediately raised the unhappy spectre of the South Atlantic Fund, launched by the Ministry of Defence in 1982 to aid the wounded and the widows of the Falklands campaign. The appeal raised more than £15 million, but degenerated into

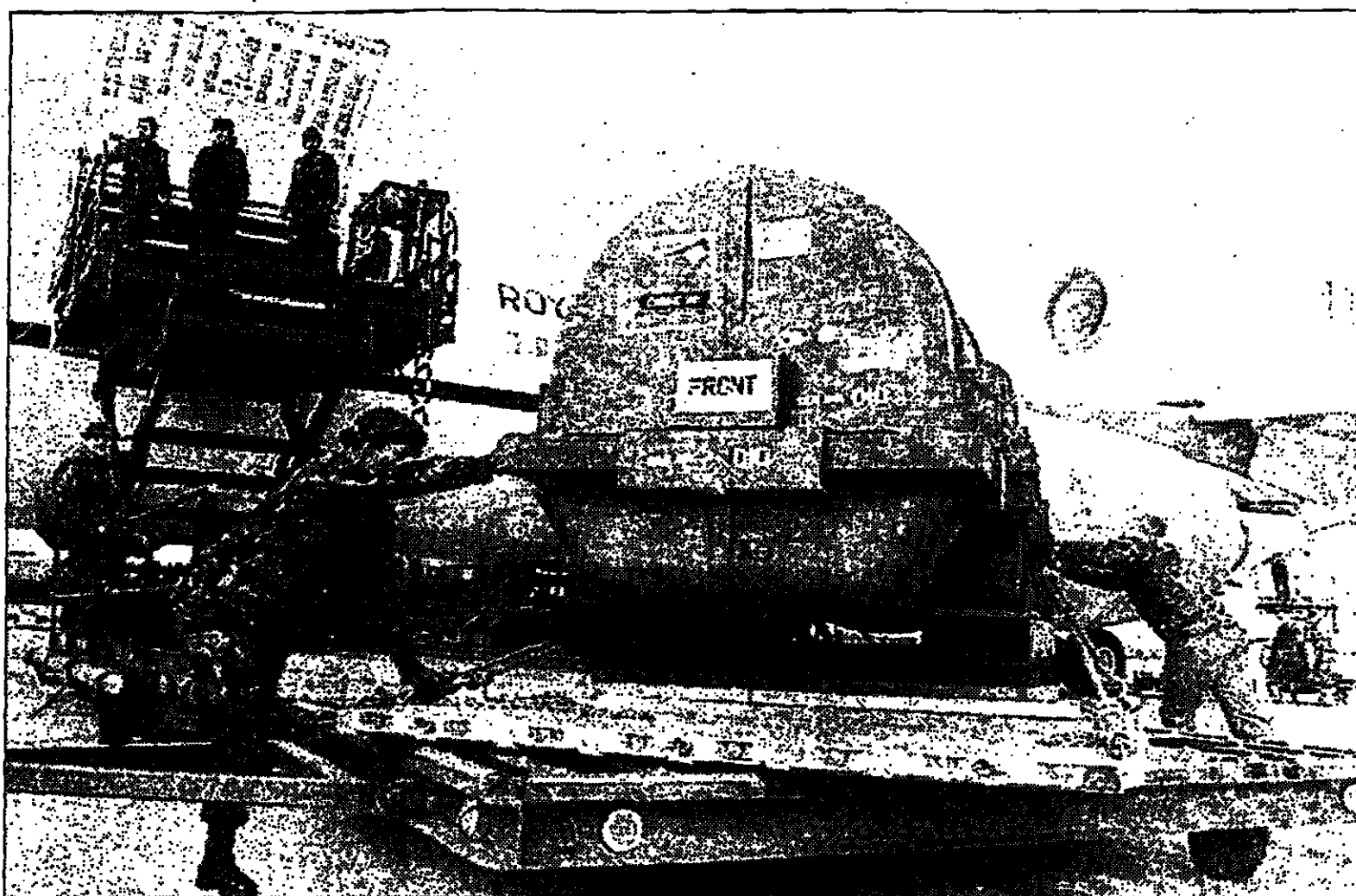
acrimony, even after paying over £13 million to the wounded and bereaved.

Happily, some basic lessons have been learned and there is at least a chance that serious mistakes will not be repeated. The Gulf Trust will be run quite differently from its predecessor: this time all the money raised will be passed on to King George's Fund for Sailors, the Army Benevolent Fund, and the RAF Benevolent Fund, each of which deals daily and professionally with the casualties of war. They will be able to pass on money to such other organisations as the British Limbless

Ex-servicemen's Association and the Royal British Legion. The South Atlantic Fund was administered centrally by defence ministry bureaucrats with no experience in post-battlefield care.

The fund never registered as a proper charity, and was widely accused of hiding behind legal argument in refusing to pay out, for example, for a visit by war widows to the Falklands in 1987.

The Ministry of Defence said yesterday that the lessons of the South Atlantic Fund had been taken into account in establishing the Gulf Trust.



War machine: members of 4624 Squadron at RAF Brize Norton air transport base in Oxfordshire loading an engine into a Tristar freighter bound for a forward

airbase in the Gulf. It is part of the continuous demand for supplies that has increased the work load for crews eight-fold over their peacetime operations. Group Captain

Keith Filby, the station commander, said that Brize Norton, the largest RAF station in the world, expected to increase its work load even further before the war ended.

"In the past four weeks we have moved 4m lb of freight." The operation has outstripped the base's previous best achievement during the Berlin airlift in 1948.

## DEPORTATIONS

## MPs back two after arrests

BY STEWART TENDLER

CONSERVATIVE MPs are making representations to Home Office ministers about two of the seven Palestinians facing deportation from Britain. One is a well-known author and commentator on Arab affairs who has openly advocated support with Israel and the second has lived peacefully in Britain for 21 years without any political activity.

The two were among seven Palestinians arrested last week and yesterday an action began in the High Court on behalf of another two of the seven amid claims that they were being held by backdoor internment because one is related to a terrorist leader.

The Palestinian writer facing deportation is Abbas Shabab, aged 46, who has written a number of books on the Middle East. He is married with two young children and was born in Haifa. His case is being taken up by Sir Dennis Walters, Conservative MP for Westbury.

Sir Trevor Skeet, Conservative MP for Bedfordshire North, has taken up the case of Ali El Saleh. Sir Trevor said Mr El Saleh, aged 39, a computer sales manager from Bedford, has been in Britain for many years. He is originally from the West Bank.

The High Court action began for "Mr B" who is related to a leading terrorist but denies any political activity. Giving leave for a hearing on Friday, Mr Justice Simon Brown, ordering no identification of the couple.

## Troops to get Times reports

The *Times* is to provide Gulf and other international coverage to *Sandy Times*, the newspaper being produced in Riyadh for the 30,000 British service personnel in the Gulf. The *Times* offered its help to enable the weekly newspaper to produce two or three mid-week supplements, the first of which is due to appear tomorrow.

*Sandy Times* is edited by Squadron Leader Pat McKinley, aged 40, and is printed in Riyadh. Its popularity among the troops is attributed partly to the fact that it is printed on tough paper which can be passed from hand to hand. "Welfare do fly out ordinary newspapers, but they tend to fall apart in the desert sand," Sqn Ldr McKinley said.

## PEACE CAMPAIGNER

## Woman leads war protest

BY RAY CLANCY

SUSAN Griggs was asleep when the telephone rang early on Thursday morning. The caller told her war had broken out in the Gulf, and she sighed, realising that the peace argument put forward so far was not going to work. The appeal for sanctions to be allowed longer to strangle Iraq economically was redundant.

Ms Griggs, aged 56, a photography agent who has spent some time in the Middle East and is a graduate of the Beirut College for Women, felt so strongly that negotiations could bring a peaceful solution in the Gulf however, that she became the London co-ordinator for Americans for Peace, an international campaigning organisation set up in October.

Originally from New York, she uses her knowledge of the Arab world to form powerful anti-war arguments and her enthusiasm to inspire young

Americans in London to take part in the peace movement. She can often be found outside the American Embassy in Grosvenor Square taking sandwiches to the demonstrators holding a 24-hour vigil. "They like chocolate brownies best, so I guess I'll just have to get my cook book out," she said.

Americans for Peace, which has branches in Paris, Amsterdam, Cologne, Frankfurt, Madrid, Geneva, Rome, Stockholm, Tokyo and Washington, believes that it is important to show the world, and President Bush in particular, that many Americans are opposed to the war. Ms Griggs and her supporters would like to see an agenda for peace worked out by the UN.

"It is very important that Iraq remains a viable country once this is all over. It has to be able to function, with or without Saddam Hussein, or

the Middle East will become a festering sore," she said.

Campaigning, organising petitions and sending out newsletters takes time. Ms Griggs admits, but she still has time to reflect on what has happened. "It is all very eerie. Saddam Hussein has been very restrained so far. I don't think he really thought the war was going to happen. It reminds me of Beirut in 1967. Then people thought it wasn't going to happen; and when it did, despite all the warnings, it was devastating."

Like many anti-war groups, the main Americans for Peace argument now centres on obtaining peace and what course events should take.

Ms Griggs is in no doubt: "The UN security council should now take over, with assistance from the Arab League, and work out the solution it should have done in the first place."

## WAR ARTIST

## Keane will fly out this week

JOHN Keane, appointed the official war artist for the Gulf on a £10,000 commission by the Imperial War Museum, is expected to leave for the war zone by the end of the week (Simon Tait writes).

"I am just waiting to hear from the Ministry of Defence now about the travel arrangements," he said last night.

Mr Keane, aged 35, will be the latest in an august line of artists commissioned by the museum since its artistic records committee was formed in 1972. Patrick Proctor was sent to Belize to record the British Army's operations. Tom Phillips painted in retrospective the second world war damage to Crete, and Linda Kitson went to the Falklands.

Leading article, page 15

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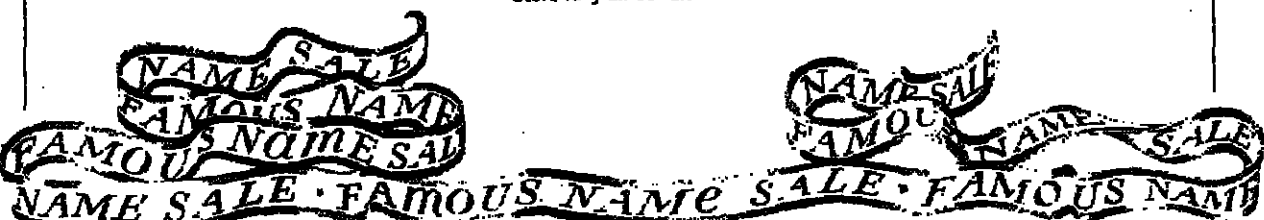
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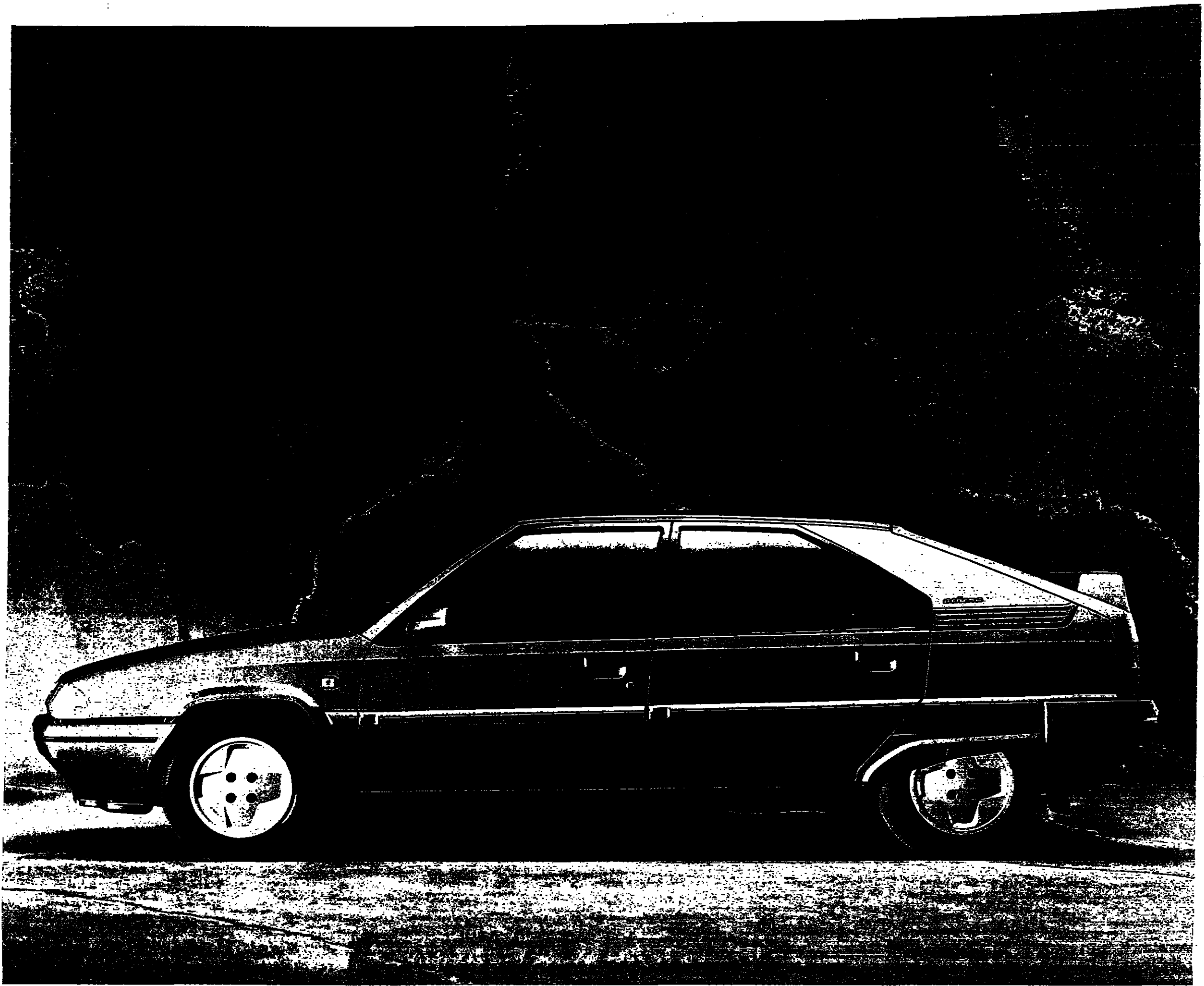
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## CITROËN BX ATHENA





## Britain calls for more help with cost of the war

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

BRITAIN is to renew efforts to persuade EC nations and other allies that have not sent military forces to the Gulf to contribute more to costs now running at more than £3.6 million a day.

The prime minister said yesterday that the failure of some European nations to commit themselves to the problems of the Gulf made nonsense of the calls for a common EC security policy and that ambitions for political union should be curbed accordingly.

Equipment lost and ammu-

## Appeal to media on Gulf grief

By JOHN WINDER

APPEALS to the media not to intrude into the grief and anxiety of families whose relatives are missing in the Gulf war were made in the Commons yesterday by John Major and Tom King, defence secretary. Neither however, is expected to make specific appeals to particular editors.

Neil Kinnock, leader of the Opposition, raised the matter with the prime minister during question time, saying that families of missing service-men had quite enough to put up with, without having to deal with a "prying press".

"Uninvited intrusions into the lives of anxious people cannot serve any public interest. Will he appeal to all editors to desist from any invasion of privacy?"

Mr Major replied that it was standard practice not to disclose the names of those who were killed without the consent of their families, and he hoped that that would be observed throughout the conflict. He shared the view that people were entitled to privacy in their grief. He expected that to be respected by everyone.

Edward Rowlands, Labour MP for Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney, echoed the appeal for privacy and asked Mr Major to approach the editors of all national newspapers asking them to respect people's feelings.

The prime minister said he hoped that everybody would respect the feelings of those in grief, and when interruptions indicated that he should intervene, he added that he hoped his words would be heard.

Anthony Beaumont-Dark, Conservative MP for Birmingham, Selly Oak, said that families of servicemen in the Gulf were under appalling strain. They had seen, with a sense of outrage and sorrow, the cruelty used against them by making them appear on television from Iraq.

Mr Major said: "For the families of our forces, and perhaps especially for those who have been captured, there is a special agony at this time and we send them all our sympathy and appreciate the courage that they too are showing."

## 'Proper care for PoWs' demand

By PETER MULLIGAN

TOM King, the defence secretary, demanded proper treatment for prisoners of war in the Gulf yesterday and warned the Iraqis that they could not "pick and choose" which parts of the Geneva convention to apply.

During question-time exchanges in the Commons, he urged Baghdad to understand that the television film of captured allied airmen had not undermined allied resolve. "It is clear that in Italy, in the United States and here it has only added to the determination to back up our forces at this dangerous time", he said.

Mr King reacted briskly to information from Neville Trotter, Conservative MP for Tynemouth, who said that the Iraqi ambassador had suggested that there was a way of applying the convention in part.

The defence secretary replied: "Iraq is party to the Geneva convention. It cannot pick and choose which bit of this convention it applies."

He said that the International Committee of the Red Cross had been satisfied and impressed with allied arrangements in Saudi Arabia for Iraqi prisoners of war. He added that "further underlines the reason why we are entitled to expect that treatment for our prisoners of war as well".

Mr Trotter praised the bravery of the parents of Flight Lieutenant Adrian Nichol, now in Iraqi hands, who live in his constituency. He said that their relief at their son's survival after being shot down had been replaced by concern as his treatment as a prisoner.

Martin O'Neill, the shadow defence spokesman, said that MPs were united in their detestation of the manner in which prisoners had been treated.

Edwina Currie, Tory MP for Derbyshire, said that the "appalling and inhuman treatment" of PoWs demonstrated to the allied forces the kind of brutal dictator they faced.

## Saddam's subjects 'will depose him'

By OUR POLITICAL EDITOR

JOHN Major, whose language in the Gulf war debates in the Commons has been notable so far for its restraint, predicted yesterday that the Iraqi people would turn on their dictator, President Saddam Hussein, and said that he would weep no tears at whatever happened to him in consequence.

Invited by Sir George Gardiner (Reigate) to endorse the opinion that "the destruction of Saddam himself is now a legitimate war aim", Mr Major replied: "I very strongly suspect that he may yet become a target of his own people."

He added: "It is perfectly clear that this man is amoral. He takes hostages. He attacks population centres. He threatens prisoners. He is a man without pity and, whatever his fate may be, I for one, will not weep for him."

Mr Major and other ministers have been emphasising

that the United Nations resolutions that Britain is fighting to fulfil do not include the overthrow of the Iraqi government or the replacement of the country's dictator. That is a matter, they have said, for the Iraqi people. But ministers agree privately that because Saddam is commander-in-chief of the Iraqi armed forces, he is a legitimate military target in that capacity.

During question time Mr Major said that at that point he had no independent evidence to confirm reports that Iraq was destroying Kuwaiti oilfields.

● In Commons exchanges Mr Major said that neither the health service nor its spokesmen in the health department would mislead the public about readiness to handle Gulf casualties.

Charles Tripp, page 14



## MPs queue for passes

THE Gulf war is having repercussions for everyone at the Palace of Westminster (Sheila Gunn writes). MPs, peers, staff and the press have been ordered to display their security passes at all times.

However, the new security controls have brought on an identity crisis for many senior MPs and peers. For decades they have wandered at will around the corridors without challenge. The new edict has

forced them to unearth their passes, which in some cases they have forgotten to renew for up to 16 years.

Queues of shame-faced MPs, peers and officials outside the pass office testify to the failure to comply with the rules to renew passes.

John MacGregor, leader of the House, ordered the public display as part of tighter security measures because of the terrorist threat.

## Labour support for war policy gaining ground

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

SUPPORT among Labour MPs for the shadow cabinet's stance on the Gulf has hardened since hostilities began and British troops were sent into battle.

Despite the resignation of another front-bencher, Tony Banks, for failing to back the leadership line, 171 Labour MPs went into the lobbies behind Neil Kinnock in their latest expression of support for United Nations policy on the Gulf.

The figure compared with 140 in the debate only a week ago, and 129 in the December debate.

Several Labour MPs who voted against the government and their own front bench a week ago were in the opposite lobby on Monday night, rejecting the option of protesting through abstaining. They included Brian Sedgemore, Keith Vaz, Alex Eadie and Harry Ewing.

Opposed though they were to the outbreak of war, many of the Labour converts believed they had no alternative but to vote for a Commons motion expressing support for British troops. They feared that a vote against would have been misunderstood by the public and possibly by their constituency parties.

The 36 MPs who stuck to their guns and continued to rebel did so not to vote against British forces, but to display their opposition to the outbreak of hostilities. The figure would probably have been higher if they had been given

the opportunity through an amendment of voting for a ceasefire.

The response from the constituencies so far appears to reflect the changing face of the Labour activist in the past decade. Gone are the days when local parties and trade union branches bombarded the Walworth Road party headquarters with missives complaining at the posture adopted by the parliamentary leadership.

It is early days, but by yesterday the international department had received only a dozen resolutions on the issue. Most but not all of them criticised the Kinnock-Kaufman stance.

Mr Banks, a junior social security spokesman, became the third frontbench casualty of the Gulf confrontation. He resigned yesterday, like Maria Fyfe and John McFall before him last week, to avoid the need for Mr Kinnock to push him.

Shadow cabinet sources estimated yesterday that fewer than 50 of the 226-strong parliamentary party had failed to support the leadership; apart from those voting against, there were about thirteen genuine abstainers.

Undoubtedly, the misgivings about the war and the decision not to have exhausted more time in the quest for a peaceful solution runs deeper. Those strains could grow the longer the war goes on, and if casualties become severe.

## Approval for force, but no jingoism

By CRAIG SETON

"I HAVE been a Labour voter all my life, but Tony Benn is wrong about the Gulf war", a former miner said as he shopped with his wife yesterday in the market square at Chesterfield, the Labour MP's constituency.

Mr Benn's anti-war stance has aroused mixed emotions in his Derbyshire constituency. Local opinion yesterday seemed to be mostly in favour of the conflict as a distasteful but necessary job to be done. But there was no jingoism among shoppers; concern, rather, over what news the next weeks or months might bring from the Gulf.

The former miner, who was made redundant from the Maykham colliery near by, said: "Mr Benn is entitled to his views, but somebody has got to stop Saddam."

Brian Johnson, aged 64, a retired electrical engineer and his friend George Rodgers, aged 61, a former mechanical engineer, both thought it right for British forces to be involved in the Gulf. But Mr Johnson added: "I do not despise him. I admire him for holding views that he has not altered over this issue."

Mr Rodgers said: "It was right to go in, but I am worried about the loss of lives, Iraqi lives as well."

Ronald Mulvey, aged 67, of Brampton, near Chesterfield said that he fully supported the MP. "This is all happening for a bit of oil", he said.

## NOTICE TO INVESTORS

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Trinity Road, Halifax



23rd January 1991

## King resists calls to delay 'peace dividend' cuts

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE government resisted calls yesterday to postpone its search for economies in defence spending set out in last year's review of Britain's needs.

But Tom King, the defence secretary, made plain to MPs that the forces involved in Britain's operations in the Gulf will not be affected and that important lessons of the Gulf war would be fed into the continuing review.

Ministers have been facing increasing pressure since the outbreak of hostilities in the Gulf became imminent to shelve the reorganisation of the armed forces envisaged in the *Options for Change* document, drawn up last year in an attempt to find a peace dividend from the changes in Eastern Europe. Alan Clark, defence procurement minister, produced a plan for



Sir Geoffrey: "wait until Gulf lessons are learnt" change that involved big cuts in the BAOR.

Tory MPs and senior officers have argued that the Gulf confrontation and the turmoil in the Baltic states should rule out the sort of sweeping changes envisaged.

Mr King made plain, however, that the rationalisation changes envisaged in the plan would continue and defence ministry officials confirmed that even as the Gulf war proceeds ministry planners are working on the proposals. Mr King said that there was no point in keeping redundant airfields or infrastructure

investment in Germany on the present scale. Savings in those areas helped to sustain the expensive operation of liberating Kuwait.

Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, Conservative MP for Wealden, told Mr King that work on *Options for Change* should not be resumed until the lessons of the Gulf had been absorbed.

Mr King replied that he could give him a partial reassurance. He was concerned to ensure that Britain's capabilities in the Gulf would not be affected by the work, but other areas would be looked at. Ministry officials emphasised that Mr King had been anxious to make plain that the exercise was not grinding to a halt.

Menzies Campbell, Liberal Democrat defence spokesman, said that it would be irresponsible to make long-term judgments about force levels while operations in the Gulf continued and there was uncertainty in the Soviet Union.

After announcing that 450 members of the Royal Fleet Reserve had expressed a willingness to serve in the war, Mr King said that the government had no plans to introduce conscription.

## Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Trade and Industry, Community Charge (Substitute Setting) bill, remaining stages. Lords (2.30): Debates on Gatt negotiations and on health and safety at work.

UPON.



# Newman nears sainthood as Pope awards him title Venerable



Newman: most influential theologian of his generation

By RUTH GLEDHILL  
RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS REPORTER

THE Pope yesterday approved the first stage in declaring Cardinal John Henry Newman a saint when he awarded him the title Venerable in recognition of his "heroic virtue".

Cardinal Newman, one of the leading English churchmen of the last century, spent half his life as an Anglican and half as a Roman Catholic. He was leader of the Oxford Movement, which became the Anglo-Catholic wing of the Church of England, when he dramatically converted to Rome in 1845. Later he became the most influential Catholic theologian of his generation.

The centenary of his death last year was celebrated by both churches, and yesterday both the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr

Robert Runcie, and Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, welcomed his latest progress towards canonisation.

The Pope's declaration follows a campaign which has lasted more than 30 years. During the ceremony for the signing of the papal decree, the Pope told Father Vincent Blehl SJ, the postulator of the canonisation, that Newman's was a "most important cause", which was an indication that it had the personal backing of the Pope.

Being declared Venerable is the first step towards ultimate canonisation. The second step is beatification, for which the Roman Catholic church requires a physical miracle, after which the person is declared "blessed".

Canonisation, the third and final step, normally requires a

further miracle. At present there is no physical miracle, such as a miraculous cure or healing, in the case of Newman. Senior Catholics hope that people will now pray for one.

The Church of England was at first devastated when Newman, the leading Anglican churchman of his day and vicar of St Mary's, the university church at Oxford, left the Church of England and became a Catholic on October 1845. He went on to found the English oratories, now in Birmingham and London.

Senior churchmen last night welcomed the declaration. Cardinal Hume said: "It is a testimony to Cardinal Newman's courage, dedication and above all saintly life that he should be declared Venerable by the church. It is a fitting acknowledgement of a great

figure in Christian history." Dr Runcie said: "I rejoice particularly in Newman's memory since he is someone whose influence and inheritance can be shared by Roman Catholics and Anglicans alike. In that sense, John Henry Newman's memory is sacramental for the future unity of the churches."

Dr Runcie said that Newman's contribution to the life of the church could not be underestimated and spanned a variety of theological disciplines, including dogmatic, philosophical, historical and ascetic theology. "As a teacher and preacher his work remains legendary."

Dr Runcie said St Mary's, Oxford, and Birmingham Oratory are "places of pilgrimage for Christians of all confessions from all over the world. The Second Vatican Council has been

called Newman's council, with some justification."

Father Blehl said: "This act represents the completion of the first and most important stage on the road to beatification and canonisation. It means that in the eyes of the church, Newman was indeed extraordinarily holy."

Father Gregory Winterton, provost of the Birmingham Oratory, said: "The news... is a very great joy to us all."

Newman's "cause" was started by the late Archbishop Grimshaw of Birmingham in 1958. It was called an historical cause as there were no living witnesses to testify to the "servant of God".

In June 1986 the most Rev Maurice Couve de Murville, Archbishop of Birmingham, officially closed the diocesan pro-

cess and sent the 6,473 pages of documents to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in Rome. The material examined during various phases of the cause amounted to 200,000 pages.

In December 1989, Father Blehl presented a 944-page two volume *positio*, the document setting out the reputation for holiness, to Cardinal Angelo Felici, prefect of the Congregation of Causes.

The *positio* was approved by historical experts appointed by the congregation and in April last year the committee of theologians voted for it "with enthusiasm".

On January 8 this year, the committee of cardinals and bishops appointed by the church to examine the *positio* was unanimous in recommending that Newman be declared Venerable.

## CAA proposes chance for all airlines to bid for Heathrow

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

ALL airlines should be free to compete for access to Heathrow airport, the Civil Aviation Authority said yesterday, recommending that rules preventing new airlines from using Heathrow be abolished.

The rules were introduced in 1977 to encourage the development of Gatwick, but have come under increasing pressure as airlines worldwide have sought access to Heathrow, which is regarded as Britain's premier airport.

The aviation authority admitted, however, that abolishing the rules would cause many problems, including pressure for more night movements to accommodate the extra flights likely to be sought.

In a report to Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary, the authority said that Heathrow was now so full at peak times that incumbent airlines would have to give up slots if newcomers were to gain access. That could result in take-off and landing slots being traded between airlines.

"For all of them to be satisfied would imply massive pressures on the present arrangements and more active trading, probably with substantial cash payments," the report said. "Airlines with domestic services would be under the greatest pressure to move out, to

make way for long-haul international flights, each one of which would carry far more passengers."

The authority said that the effects of the change were unpredictable "not least because they depend critically on the action of foreign governments — some of whom perceive great advantage in operating at Heathrow". If, as expected, Mr Rifkind accepts the recommendations, airlines such as Japan's All Nippon, which at present fly to Gatwick, are expected to demand immediate access to Heathrow.

The proposals could also pave the way for United Airlines and American Airlines to take over services provided by Pan Am and TWA to Heathrow. Under the present rules, as "new airlines" they would have to use Gatwick.

The report received mixed reaction from British carriers last night. British Airways said that the result could be chaotic, with applications for slots exceeding those available. "This will undermine the whole rationale for Stansted airport and will threaten Gatwick's role as a major international hub," BA said. "The CAA itself acknowledges that there is not room at Heathrow for all the airlines who want to be there."

Richard Branson, chairman of Virgin Atlantic, said he was delighted and would be seeking to move his Los Angeles, New York and Tokyo flights from Gatwick to Heathrow. "We only need a few slots, and even if all long-haul international airlines were allowed in it would only take about 7 per cent more slots."

This will bring a fundamental change in British aviation. For the first time international airlines will be able to fly from Heathrow and compete with British Airways, which has used it as their fortress for so long."

The aviation authority also recommended that two other rules — one preventing charter flights from operating from Heathrow and one prohibiting new domestic services at the airport — should be abolished. Britannia Airways said yesterday that such a move "could open up the possibility of low cost travel from Heathrow to millions of passengers".

Business News comment, page 25

## £950m price tag set on east coast motorway

By MICHAEL DYNES  
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

AMBITIOUS proposals for an east coast transport corridor linking the North-East with the Channel tunnel via the M11 and M25 were unveiled in a report published yesterday.

The £950 million scheme would involve building some 242 miles of motorway from the A45 Newlands of the Wash, and on to Lincolnshire, Humberside, North Yorkshire and Tyne and Wear.

The proposed motorway would improve the economic and development prospects for the eastern seaboard counties, enabling them to compete more effectively in European markets, and creating an estimated 60,000 jobs, according to supporters.

The consultants who compiled the £400,000 report, sponsored by the European Commission, the seven district councils affected by the route and private-sector interests including British Steel and Marks & Spencer, say that the motorway should be a high-quality dual standard road financed by the public sector.

An alternative would be a mix of public and private sector finance. But the introduction of tolls would cover only about 40 per cent of construction costs, and would reduce the number of vehicles using the road to half those expected on a publicly funded road, the report said.

Consultants, which include Wootton Jeffries, Kennedy Henderson, and Peat Marwick McLintock, called on the public and private sponsors "to proceed to lobby strongly for early construction of the east coast route" by establishing "a strategic planning authority to press forward with the region's development".

At a conference on the impact of the Channel tunnel, organised by the Transport and General Workers' Union, John Prescott, Labour's transport spokesman, yesterday gave his backing to the scheme. He insisted however that there remained an urgent need for the government to integrate road and rail investment in a national transport strategy.



Left, evening dress in splashy black and white printed silk gazar from the Franka couture collection, shown in London yesterday. Right, cream lace cardigan suit, encrusted with petalled lace edging, from the Victor Edelstein couture collection to be shown in London today

## Haute couture season heralds vibrant spring

By LIZ SMITH, FASHION EDITOR

THE international haute couture season opened in London yesterday when Baroness de Jan Stael von Holstein, otherwise known as the designer Franka, launched her collection of short, strong silhouettes for spring 1991.

Her trapeze-line dresses, beaded jackets with chiffon skirts and neat jackets diagonally buttoned with short skirts, often in contrasting colours, herald a season of colourful fashions that promise an antidote to the sombre world outside. For her society clientele, which ranges from the Duchess of Gloucester to most of the London-based Forté clan, she supplies grand ball dresses in draped

chiffon, vivid satin or dashing black and white printed silk gazar. Princess Margaret led the cast of clients yesterday to watch a typically dramatic exercise in line and rich colour by the designer Anouska Hempel. Twiggy, Countess Bismarck, Lady Henrietta Spencer-Churchill, Aina Forté and Shakira Caine were among Ms Hempel's high-profile clientele who will choose between the short, scarlet, ribbed silk tunic dresses scooped up at the sides and trimmed with pompoms, and the deep green crushed silk taffeta dresses with puffed-up skirts from her latest couture line.

The craftsmanship expected in a

custom-made couture dress is much in evidence in Ms Hempel's creations, where stiffened folds of silk rise in a double full on a simple strapless dress and much care is lavished on the ribbed peplums, rosettes and bouncy bows with which she decorates her stark silhouettes.

Victor Edelstein, whose most visible customer is the Princess of Wales, today shows his collection of trapeze-line dresses and tulip-skirted ball dresses.

Sir Hardy Amies, knighted last year shortly before his 80th birthday for services as dressmaker to the Queen, is debuting from his Savile Row salon to stage a show

for customers this evening in the atrium of the Strand branch of Coutts bank. Appropriately for a designer celebrated for his typically British brand of gentlemanly tailoring, Sir Hardy will be parading a small selection of menswear modelled by a group of boys from Eton let out specially for the occasion.

The climax of the British couture season takes place tomorrow at Claridge's, when Marc Bohan, the former designer from Christian Dior in Paris, makes his London debut with his first couture collection for Hartnell.

John Flett obituary, page 16

## Joint code of conduct urged for solicitors

By FRANCES GIBB  
LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

SOLICITORS wanting to take cases in the higher courts under the government's legal reforms should be subject to a common code of conduct and common disciplinary tribunal along with barristers, Lord Griffiths, the law lord, said yesterday.

"I very much hope that if solicitors seek rights of audience in a court which has hitherto been the sole preserve of the Bar, that the Law Society will be able to work closely with the Bar Council to produce a common code of conduct," he said.

Lord Griffiths, addressing the Legal Education and Training Group, was giving his first speech since being appointed chairman of the new Lord Chancellor's advisory committee, charged with overseeing implementation of the government's legal reforms. His comments were the first indications of how the legal reforms, which end the Bar's monopoly of advocacy rights in the higher courts, may work.

Lord Griffiths also made clear that in considering any application by the Law Society for extended rights of audience, his committee would look closely at both the academic and practical content of the training of their advocates. "If, in our view, there were shortcomings, it would be our duty to draw this to the attention of the profession and to make recommendations for improvement," he said.

Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, last night attacked the Law Society over its decision to allow solicitors to call themselves specialists in a field of law if they consider they are sufficiently experienced to justify the title. He said that the right way forward was a system which allowed the public to identify officially accredited specialist solicitors, who they knew to have met objective standards in that particular field.

## Warren cleared of drink charge

Frank Warren, the boxing promoter, was cleared yesterday of a drink-drive charge although he was over the limit when police stopped him. He did not contest that he had 113mg of alcohol per 100ml of blood, compared with the legal limit of 80mg, but was acquitted after Bow Street magistrates, central London, were told that police did not ask him whether he preferred to give a blood or urine sample. Russell Houston, for the defence, said that according to a recent High Court ruling motorists should be asked their preference.

## Abuse reports

Owners and heads of independent schools are to be reminded of their duty to report any proved incidents of sexual abuse of pupils and to introduce new checks to ensure that the measures are carried out, Michael Fallon, the schools minister, said yesterday. School inspectors will also be asked to make their own enquiries to ensure that checks have been made on all new staff.

## Fostering decision

A High Court judge has ruled that a boy aged three should be returned to a foster mother by a lesbian couple allowed to adopt him by social services in Newcastle upon Tyne. A council spokesman said the decision had been made at a custody hearing held to restore a bond between the boy and his foster mother and not because it was considered that the other placement was unsuitable.

## Town clerk accused

David Barras, town clerk of Uckfield, East Sussex, vanished with his council's cash books to falsify them before an audit was due, Chichester crown court was told yesterday. He then gave himself up to police. Mr Barras has pleaded not guilty to seven specimen theft charges totalling £7,200 and two counts of forging cheques. The case continues.

## Only one surgeon in 100 is a woman

By JILL SHERMAN  
SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

A £1.5 MILLION campaign to help female doctors reach the top of their profession is being launched after the government disclosed that less than 1 per cent of general surgeons are women.

Regional health authorities will be given extra money to discriminate in favour of doctors wanting part-time training posts, to try to prevent an exodus of female junior doctors. Targets will be set for each region to ensure that the number of part-time registrar posts increases within five years from fewer than 150 to 430, representing 5 per cent of all registrar posts.

Female junior surgeons will be eligible for a separate scheme, involving mutual support groups backed up by professional advice. The Royal College of Surgeons has agreed to appoint special advisers in each region.

Announcing the measures yesterday, Virginia Bottomley, health minister, said that although equal numbers of men and women qualified from medical school, women filled only about 15 per cent of consultant posts and only 3 per cent of those jobs in surgical specialties.

Most women gained higher marks than their male colleagues in examinations, yet female juniors tended to leave hospital

medicine in their late twenties before they had finished training. "It is essential that attention is paid to the problems faced by women doctors in the NHS to make full use of this major asset and resource," Mrs Bottomley said.

Regions will be given central funding for the first time for part-time posts for registrars — £500,000 this year and £1 million next year. Men and women will be eligible to apply for the posts, which involve a 40-hour week, including about 20 hours on call.

Recent figures show that three out of four such jobs are filled by women, who find the hours more

compatible with bringing up a family. The belated drive to help women up the medical career ladder comes after a report commissioned by the health department in 1988, which suggested that discrimination among male doctors and inflexible working hours prevented female juniors gaining consultant posts. Only 11 of the 1,217 general surgeons are women.

The health department, responding to the report by Isobel Allen, set up its own working party to find ways of redressing the balance. The working party's findings, *Women Doctors and their Careers*, published yesterday, addressed three areas: under-representation of women at consultant level; lack of opportunity for part-time working and training; and equal opportunities in appointment procedures.

As well as the measures outlined by Mrs Bottomley, the report suggests draft guidance on equal opportunities in recruiting any medical personnel. The guidance, which will be included in a leaflet to be circulated to all medical schools, says that prospective employees should not be asked about their marital status or domestic life and such information need not be included in application forms.

Members of the working party, mainly women who have reached the top level of the medical

profession, emphasised that there would be no competitive advantage for women. Dr Diana Walford, chairman of the working party, said: "No one will get a post they would not have secured through their own merit. We are just trying to overcome the difficulties that women have to face. The objective is to end up with more women reaching the higher levels of surgery and more."

Dr Fay Wilson, a GP on the working party, said that she had opted for general practice because she doubted her chances of being accepted by male reactionaries. "You do not need more stamina, bristly force or intellectual capacity to be a surgeon. It is a straightforward job. But all the surgeons training with me were male and there is an old boys' club feel about it. It is very difficult to break in from the outside."

Mrs Bottomley also announced an extension of the doctors' retainer scheme that helps doctors under the age of 55 who work no more than one day a week. Doctors can carry out limited professional work and attend post-graduate medical education sessions in return for an annual retainer, which has been increased from £155 to £290.

*Women Doctors and their Careers* (Department of Health Publications Store, No 2 Site, Manchester Road, Heywood, Lancs)



Bottomley: action essential to help women doctors





Child's play: Joseph Lipton, aged seven, with toy piano, rehearsing with his father, Jonathan (right), a member of the London Symphony Orchestra, for the first *Childhood* concert at the Barbican tomorrow. Sixteen children of LSO members will play bird calls and noise machines in *Machines and Dreams* by Colin Matthews

## Council aims to sell castle after paying £8m to display art

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

A WELSH castle restored at a cost of £8 million to house one of Britain's finest collections of Victorian portraits, furniture and sculpture, may be sold for conversion into a theme park in order to reduce poll tax bills.

The Labour group which took control of Clwyd county council last May wants to sell the mainly 19th century Bodolwyddan Castle at St Asaph, near Rhyl, north Wales, which was named as 1989 Museum of the Year.

The castle, built by a local slate baron, was bought and restored by the council in the mid-1980s to house much of the National Portrait Gallery's collection of 19th century paintings. Carpets and curtains were specially woven and new gilded plasterwork installed to recreate the opulence of high Victorian interior decoration. Furniture

was lent by the Victoria and Albert Museum and sculpture by the Royal Academy.

Dennis Parry, the chairman of Clwyd council Labour group, said that the castle would cost £1.3 million to run this year and the group had decided that community charge payers could no longer go on meeting the cost. "The government have not been very helpful," he said. "We are paying £430,000 a year in debt charges on the money we borrowed for the capital works. We think that money could be better spent."

The council's policy committee voted yesterday to instruct officers to produce a report on the practicability of selling the castle and a final decision is expected in March.

Mr Parry said that the Labour group wanted to 'sell the castle and its 244-acre park for use as a theme park, "along

the lines of the sort of thing at Disney World."

Lord Kenyon, the former chairman of National Portrait Gallery trustees, who played a key role in establishing the castle exhibition, said: "I think it is little short of a disaster. There are 200 pictures at Bodolwyddan, including C.F. Watts' *Hall of Fame*, a series of portraits of everyone who was anyone in Victorian England that had never been seen in its entirety before, even in London.

"If the county council go ahead with this plan no major gallery is ever going to trust a local authority again."

Roderick Gradidge, the architect and authority on Victorian design who oversaw the restoration, said: "It houses the best collection of Victorian portraits in the country and the V & A have lent some of their most important pieces of 19th century furniture. It would be tragedy if the museum was lost. All these works, most of which had not been seen by the public for decades, will go straight back into store if it closes."

The National Portrait Gallery said it had not been informed of the council's decision but a spokeswoman said that if a sale was contemplated it would regard that as very serious.

Mr Parry said he hoped that the museum could remain in the castle even if it was sold. But one portrait gallery curator said last night: "We certainly would want a number of very firm guarantees before we would even consider leaving our collection there."



Kenyon: This is little short of a disaster

## Oil refinery explosion claim is settled

Eight workers who suffered severe psychological trauma after a massive explosion at a BP oil refinery settled a £380,000 damages action out of court yesterday. Some still relive the terror and are haunted by the sound and image of the flames.

The legal actions were brought against BP after a blast at the Grangemouth plant in central Scotland in March 1987. The blast, equal to 170lb of TNT, could be heard 20 miles away and was followed by a fire so intense that many people fled the town in panic. It was the second explosion within ten days at the plant: three men died in the two blasts.

Yesterday the Court of Session in Edinburgh was told that the cases had been settled and that no evidence would be heard. Details of the settlement were not given.

## IRA men jailed

Five men arrested after a police raid near Arklow, Co Wicklow, on the biggest terrorist bomb factory found in the Irish Republic were each jailed for five years by the Special Criminal Court in Dublin yesterday for being members of the IRA.

## Imbert operation

Sir Peter Imbert, commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, had a single bypass heart operation at a London hospital yesterday. If his recovery goes well Sir Peter, aged 57, could be back at work in the spring.

## Baltic holidays

British farmers are being offered holidays in Lithuania in return for helping the agricultural industry there. Three Lithuanian farmers are visiting dairy, beef and pig farms in Somerset. More will arrive in May.

## Council laid low

Twenty of the 29 people who attended the annual supper of Ulverston, Cumbria, town council have been taken ill with sickness and stomach pains. More than half the council was affected.

## Crane man dies

A crane driver died yesterday after a cast iron bar fell on to his cab. Kevin Morley, of Erdington, Birmingham, was working on a construction site at Aberaman, Mid Glamorgan.

## Hint of a break in Ulster initiative

From A CORRESPONDENT IN BELFAST

PETER Brooke, the Northern Ireland secretary, yesterday signalled that significant progress had been made in his "talks about talks" initiative aimed at bringing Unionists and nationalists into full-scale negotiations.

It has been more than a year since he launched his initiative which he hopes will bring about negotiations about relationships inside Northern Ireland, between north and south and between Britain and Ireland. Most recently the exploratory talks process had become bogged down over differences on how the north-south strand of any talks should start.

Yesterday Mr Brooke hinted that progress had been made in dealing with that outstanding point and now there were only a number of delicate details to be worked out before negotiations could get under way.

It has apparently been generally accepted that Mr Brooke take on the role of arbiter during any negotiations and that he should

advise, in consultation with the Social Democratic and Labour Party and the Unionists, when the north-south leg of the initiative should get under way and about the timing of Dublin government involvement. Mr Brooke said the idea that he might play the role of arbiter was one which had been widely ventilated and "nobody seems to have objected to it".

Asked if a formula for negotiations had been found which was satisfactory to the Unionists and the SDLP, Mr Brooke replied that progress was being made towards the point where the talking could start. The British and Irish governments have patiently kept the talks process on the rails over the past year. This is now the second year of the search for a break.

Mr Brooke is expected soon to meet Gerald Collins, the Irish foreign minister, when they chair a meeting of the Anglo-Irish intergovernmental conference, at which they will discuss developments in the talks process.

## Forest fee puts husky races in doubt

By KERRY GILL

THE future of Britain's leading husky dog rally, which takes place near Aviemore this weekend, was thrown into jeopardy yesterday when the Forestry Commission announced that it would charge the organisers up to £1,600 to stage the races on its land.

As 110 teams gathered to take part in the annual snow rally, John Evans, of the Siberian Husky Club of Great Britain, said the increase could drive the event out of Scotland.

Since the rally began eight years ago, the commission has been charging the club £50 to hold races on the 4.7-mile course through the Glenmore Forest. It has now announced that the fee will be £600, plus £1,000 if it snows to compensate it for not being able to

make the ski tow available to the public. The club was expecting an increase, but last night Mr Evans said he was staggered by the amount.

"They have got us over a barrel," he said. "This has come up just in the last few days and we were only sent a fax detailing the increase today. About 500 people are here in Aviemore for the event, yet we have only heard of this rise now. We feel we are being driven out by our own success."

No one from the Forestry Commission was available to comment last night.

This year's event is expected to be the biggest since husky-and-sled racing was introduced to Aviemore with an original entry of 11 teams. The rally now attracts entrants from as far apart as Plymouth and Caithness, television

coverage and hundreds of spectators. Other rallies are held in England and Wales, but the club says the Aviemore event is the most important and popular.

Teams were practising with wheeled sleds yesterday after a sudden thaw, but snow is expected before the weekend. Mr Evans said three classes for two-, four- and six-dog sleds would be run on Saturday and Sunday at timed intervals. Last year's winner, a six-dog team, completed the course in 14 minutes 35 seconds.

A team is known as a rig and the sleds are similar to those developed in Alaska. Mr Evans said that husky racing was no more dangerous than other sports, although occasionally the "mushers" (dog drivers) were bound to experience falls and torn ligaments.

# ANNOUNCING THE FINAL REDUCTIONS.

	Harrods Usual Price	SALE PRICE
LEATHER ROOM Ground Floor		
Filofax Briefcases .....	£220	£55
LADIES FASHION First Floor		
Cerruti Printed Silk 2 piece .....	£669	£167
Country Casuals Navy Poplin Tartan Raincoat .....	£189	£89
Country Casuals Art Nouveau Skirt .....	£65	£29
JH Collectibles Leather Skirt .....	£149	£37.25
Genny Skirt .....	£325	£81
Krizia Blouse 100% Silk .....	£385	£96
Caroline Charles top 100% Silk .....	£205	£50
Planet Brown Check Jacket .....	£119	£47.20
Planet Tiger Print Blouse .....	£45	£12
TV & AUDIO Second Floor		
Aiwa X100CD .....	£999	£699
SOUND & VISION Second Floor		
A wide selection of videos .....	£9.99	£5.99
Rainman .....	£14.99	£7.99
COOKS SHOP Second Floor		
Set 12 tea towels .....	£12.95	£6.95
Anodised Stirfry .....	£29.95	£14.95
'Windemere' design		
Eg. Chopping Boards .....	£5.95	£1.95
Coasters .....	£5.95	£1.95
Teapot .....	£14.95	£5.50
White Marble Pastry Boards .....	£9.95	£4.50
SILVER DEPARTMENT Second Floor		
Arthur Price of England Cutlery, La Regence		
Eg. 44 pce canteen of cutlery .....	£709	£350
60 pce canteen of cutlery .....	£975	£485
124 pce canteen of cutlery .....	£1799	£899
BOOKS Second Floor		
Raphael .....	£45	£12.50
Blacu's Grand Atlas .....	£30	£7.50
BED LINENS Second Floor		
Exclusive cotton percale plain dyed bed linens in various colours		
Eg. Flat sheet (178x275cm) .....	£29	£7.25
Duvet Cover (135x220cm) .....	£39	£9.75
Plain Hem Pillowcase (50x75cm) .....	£7.50	£1.85
TABLE LINENS Second Floor		
Printed cotton tablecloths in various designs		
Eg. 6 seater oblong (152x229cm) .....	£29	£7.25
8 seater oblong (152x264cm) .....	£35	£8.75
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## KREMLIN TALKS

# Reason for hope seen by Latvian president

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

THE Latvian president, Anatolijs Gorbunovs, met President Gorbachev in the Kremlin yesterday for what were described by the Latvian side as "unofficial talks" centring on the political situation in the republic. The talks lasted two and a half hours and afterwards Mr Gorbunovs said he was optimistic about the future of his republic.

"As always, our talks were constructive and friendly," he said. They were believed to have included discussion of the gun battle at the Latvian interior ministry on Sunday evening in which five people died, including two Latvian policemen.

Mr Gorbunovs later denied

reports that his government had requested direct presidential rule. The official Tass news agency had indicated the previous day that measures to implement direct rule in the republic would be on the agenda.

Mr Gorbunovs said: "In recent days official and unofficial sources have circulated rumours to the effect that the Latvian leadership would countenance the possibility of agreement on the introduction of direct presidential rule in Latvia. I can state officially that this is not a truthful representation of the position of the parliament and government of Latvia. The dissemination of such statements only hinders the Latvian leadership's quest for civil consensus."

Mr Gorbunovs was also scheduled to meet the Russian Federation leader, Boris Yeltsin. Latvia was a signatory to a four-republic appeal initiated by Mr Yeltsin after the violence in Lithuania, which called on the United Nations to intervene. It also signed an agreement that would guarantee ethnic Russians in the republic dual Russian and Latvian citizenship.

Mr Yeltsin, meanwhile, spent the day meeting leaders of local authorities in the Russian Federation. Their discussions centred on plans to divide property, including industrial enterprises, between Russia and the central authorities. Under new financing arrangements agreed for 1991, Russia will take over responsibility from the centre for financing a number of enterprises, but it also wants full managerial control.

Through the day there was no sign of the promised meeting of the Federation Council, the Soviet Union's top executive body. Official sources said on Monday that the council would meet in emergency session yesterday to discuss the crisis in the Baltic. By mid-morning, however, officials denied that there were plans for the Council to meet.

## LATVIA

## Communist protest in parliament

FROM BRUCE CLARK IN RIGA

COMMUNIST deputies reappeared briefly in the Latvian parliament yesterday, demanding permission to make a short address. They stormed out again without delivering it — saying the authorities had violated an agreement that the message would be broadcast on Latvian television — raising fears that they are paving the way for Moscow to intervene.

However, Sergei Dimanis, their parliamentary leader, distanced himself from hard-line demands for the pro-independence legislature's dissolution. He said a solution could still be found within the existing parliament.

In the Russian Federation, Andrei Fedorov, deputy head of the embryonic foreign ministry, said that direct rule over the Baltic republics by President Gorbachev would lead to civil war.



Building the future: a child sits atop a barricade of concrete blocks, erected as protection around the parliament building in the Lithuanian capital, Vilnius, after Soviet troops assaulted public buildings

## CALL FOR REFORM

## Gorbachev accused of abandoning radical cause to keep grip on power

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

THE embattled Soviet president, Mikhail Gorbachev, came under further attack from the democratic reform lobby yesterday when Stanislav Shatalin, his former economic adviser, accused him of trying to hold on to power at any cost and demanded a return to the policies of reform.

Mr Shatalin's attack, published as an open letter in the Communist Party's youth newspaper, *Komsomolskaya Pravda*, accused President Gorbachev of making common cause with the conservatives in the mistaken belief that this would keep him in power.

"The country is in a state of deepest crisis, disintegration and barbarity," he said. "An economic catastrophe is approaching and nothing has been done to avert it. The government's forecast for

1991 is a mere chimera; the budget for 1991 is fiction, and will cause sharp price rises, especially for food."

Mr Shatalin accused Mr Gorbachev of being able but for some reason unwilling to do what had to be done. Finally, he said in his open letter, "you spoke out loud of the need for radical economic reform and therefore for a change in the whole sociopolitical system... But, having said A, we then failed to do B, and everything was drowned in a sea of curses."

Referring to the summer, when Mr Gorbachev and Boris Yeltsin, the Russian leader, agreed a joint approach to the country's economic future, Mr Shatalin wrote: "I thought, thank goodness, he has heard our prayers. At last, the president of the USSR has formed the first ever non-anonymous team of people to work out a

national programme for the transition to a market economy."

But then the programme was rejected by the Soviet parliament. "This was a catastrophe which could have been avoided only by the establishment of a competent coalition multi-ethnic government."

"Alas, what happened was exactly the opposite. You, Mikhail Sergeyevich, with your intellectual potential and your comrades-in-arms were free to make the correct move... You only have to answer one simple question. Why do you not — I stress, you can, but you won't — make the correct move?" Mr Shatalin said he saw two possibilities: "Either you do not want the welfare of your people, or you do want their welfare but fear that in the struggle to achieve it you will lose your power."

Noting the harm to the

Soviet image in the West of the violence in the Baltic region, he called on the president to join forces with the reformists. "You risk nothing, I repeat, nothing. But you must overcome that mystical suspicion you harbour of the democrats. You must also realise that without massive co-operation with the West... we will never establish any effective market economy."

Mr Gorbachev's former adviser is an emotional man and an element of personal bitterness and disappointment cannot be excluded. He was clearly distressed by Mr Gorbachev's rejection of his "500-day" programme (the blueprint for the rapid transition from central planning to a market economy which he co-authored at the president's request) and his response suggests that his professional pride has been dented.

While his analysis of the president's motives and weaknesses may not be fully accurate, it reflects a feeling prevalent among reformists.

Mr Shatalin has distanced himself from Mr Gorbachev since his economic proposals were rejected in the early autumn.



Shatalin: attack bears the hallmark of bitterness

## Uganda changes its prime minister

Kampala — President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda has dropped Samson Kisekka as prime minister and replaced him with George Adyebo, a 43-year-old economist. Mr Kisekka, in his seventies, was appointed prime minister in 1986 when President Museveni took power. He becomes vice-president.

Mr Adyebo, a member of Mr Museveni's National Resistance Council, is also a member of the Langi tribe and currently principal of the Uganda College of Commerce. His appointment maintains the tribal balance of the government. (Reuters)

## Abortion day

Washington — Abortion rights supporters and opponents marked the 18th anniversary of the Supreme Court's 1973 decision which legalised abortion during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy. The anti-abortion March for Life and the pro-abortion National Organisation for Women both held rallies. (AP)

## Freighter sinks

Brussels — At least 17 crew members out of 42 died when an Indian-registered freighter, Continental Lotus, sank 200 miles east of Malta, the Belgian defence ministry said. There were four survivors, with no report on the 21 others. (Reuters)

## Delhi bombs

Delhi — At least 48 people were injured, 12 seriously, when two bombs exploded simultaneously in central Delhi. Sikh militants were believed responsible. One went off in the city police car park and the other outside a court building. Two youths were arrested.

## Seven expelled

Hong Kong — Seven human rights activists, thrown out of China for attempting to obtain details about the trials of leaders of the 1989 Peking democracy movement, arrived here claiming they had achieved their aim of drawing international attention to human rights in China.

## EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

## Twelve plan to expose Soviet rights abuses

FROM PETER GUILFORD IN BRUSSELS

THE European Community will today launch a human rights enquiry into repression in the Baltic republics which could expose the beleaguered Soviet leadership to considerable political embarrassment throughout the year.

The Luxembourg presidency of the EC will invoke new human rights procedures agreed by 34 governments under the Charter of Paris. It marks the first time such procedures, designed to cement respect for human rights throughout post-communist Europe, have been used to target a specific case.

The move coincided with a refusal by the European parliament yesterday to give its opinion on the community's overall aid programme to the Soviet Union, effectively suspending it for up to one month. MEPs are using their powers to delay EC financing to protest against violence in the Baltic republics.

Luxembourg, speaking for the whole community, will send the Soviet leadership a questionnaire demanding a full explanation of the violence in which 19 pro-independence activists in Lithuania and Latvia have been killed over the past few days.

The EC will then inform all 34 members of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) of its action. If the EC considers Moscow's reply unsatisfactory, it will proceed to point the finger at alleged Soviet human rights excesses in the Baltic region during a string of key CSCE meetings over the next year, including one scheduled in Moscow next autumn.

The outcome of the enquiry will depend greatly upon Moscow's ability to prove that the orders to send in troops were taken locally and not from the Kremlin, according to EC officials. But there is little credence in several European capitals, including London, that Moscow will be able to prove that this was the case.

The community will also judge for itself whether the Baltic incidents were isolated events or whether they fit into a longer-term pattern of "permanent intimidation" against the Soviet republics, according to Jean-Jacques Kasel, the political director of the Luxembourg government.

The moves, confirmed by top foreign policy advisers from the 12 community states during a meeting in Brussels yesterday, were accompanied by clarification of the community's plans to slow down economic co-operation with the Soviet Union until it is convinced that Moscow no longer plans to curb Baltic independence through repression.

However, Mr Kasel, who chaired the meeting, said £175 million of emergency food aid to help Soviet cities survive beyond the winter would not be withheld. But British officials claimed the political director had reinforced a guarantee that the aid would be distributed by non-governmental organisations to those who need it most.

Furthermore, a cloud of doubt now hangs over an additional £350 million of credit to help the Soviet Union buy Western food supplies. EC finance ministers will decide whether Moscow is fit to receive such credit when they meet on January 28.

This, together with the postponement of key talks due tomorrow between Soviet and EC officials to add flesh to the bones of EC-Soviet co-operation, effectively puts any new economic relations between the two on ice for the time being.

The Soviet embassy to the community sought to play down the significance of the delays. A spokesman said: "This should not be dramatised. Today's circumstances (for increased co-operation) are not favourable."

The community's patience is clearly running out, but the series of moves show that the EC is still far from dropping its support for President Gorbachev. It is determined not to jeopardise Moscow's support for the coalition against Iraq. Politically and economically, it also perceives the break-up of the Soviet Union, or any full return to socialist repression, to be more dangerous than Mr Gorbachev's excessive attempts to hold the union together.

In the words of one official yesterday: "We do not want to risk a return to the Cold War for the sake of four deaths in Latvia."

SEOUL: South Korea has formally pledged \$3 billion (£1.5 billion) in economic aid to the Soviet Union over three years from March, a government spokesman said yesterday. "South Korea has agreed to grant the loans in order to promote economic ties," he said. (Reuters)

## Lawyer missing as \$25m vanishes

FROM CHARLES BRENNER IN NEW YORK

TO THE clients and friends who entrusted their savings to Steven Romer, a Manhattan lawyer, his new year greeting is one they will remember. "Your money is no longer available. I am sorry to say. I used the money to feed some hungry and poverty-stricken people."

The letter was the last anyone has heard from Mr Romer, who is now thought to be in Africa, possibly in Sierra Leone, according to Robert Morgenthau, the Manhattan district attorney. To the embarrassment of the New York bar, which is recovering from an embezzlement scandal last month, Mr Romer is suspected of stealing about \$25 million (£13 million). No other lawyer in American history has walked off with so much money. One New Jersey family has lost \$3 million.

"It's shocking that a lawyer who holds a position of trust with his clients would be involved in this kind of embezzlement," Mr Morgenthau told *The New York Times*, which yesterday asked whether Mr Romer was truly a "Robin Hood or a \$25 million thief".

"Mr Romer had given every impression of being a solid citizen and a good man," said Hume Steyer, a lawyer representing an orphan who handed control of her \$700,000 trust fund to the vanished attorney. Others described Mr Romer, aged 55, as a model parent and "a good guy in every respect".

He was described as an enterprising part-time businessman, who had interests in gold mines in Sierra Leone. The \$25 million came from about 40 people who had given him control of trusts, asked him to invest money for them or lent him money, according to the *New York Law Journal*.

The losses that Mr Romer allegedly inflicted are too heavy even for the fund operated by the New York bar to compensate victims of felonious litigants.

Mr Romer's wife and children cannot explain his disappearance. His car was discovered in the borough of Queens: the city's two airports are in the district.

In a farewell letter to his clients, postmarked Los Angeles on January 3, Mr Romer said he was suffering from an inoperable brain tumour and most had two months to live. "I made arrangements to have this letter mailed to you if I die or lapse into a coma. Since you are reading this, one of the two has happened." He also said that he had taken out a \$23 million life insurance policy. His wife and family said they were unaware of any illness or the policy.

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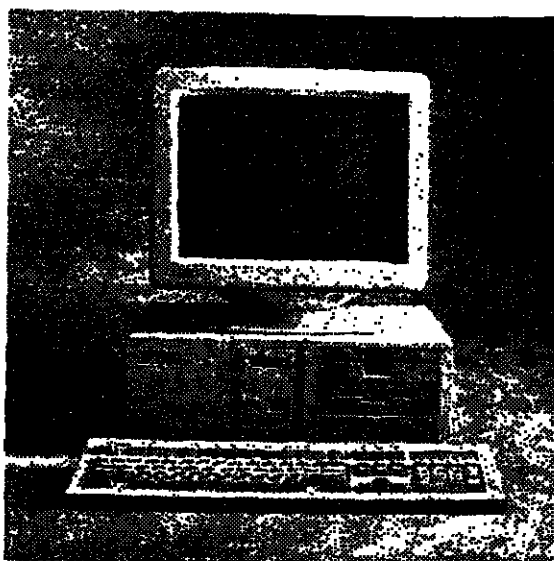
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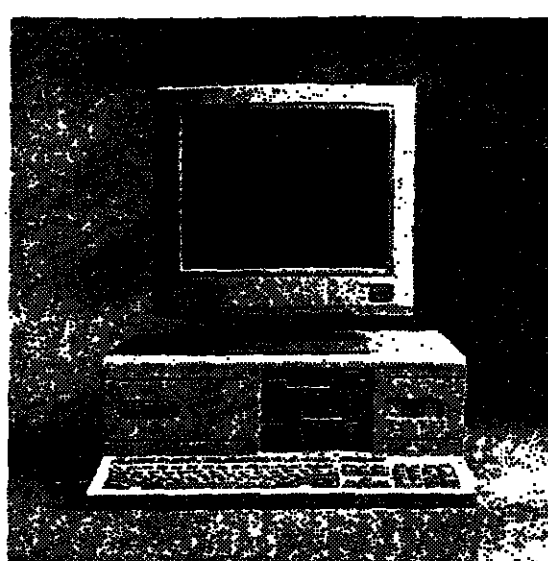


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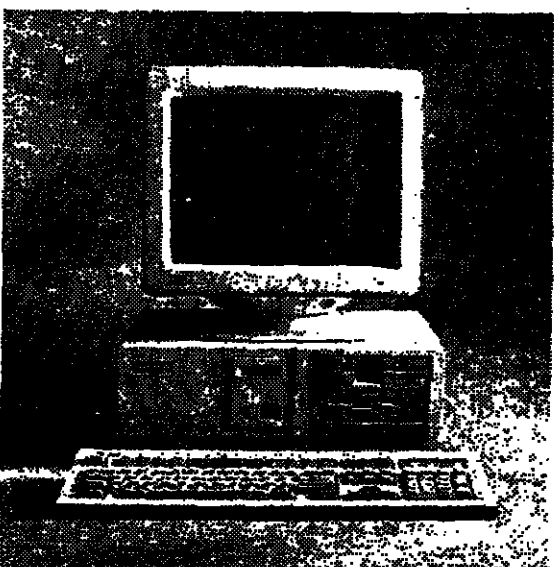
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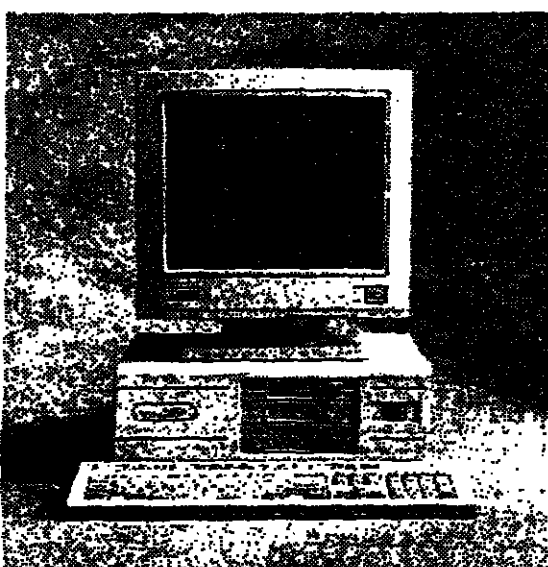
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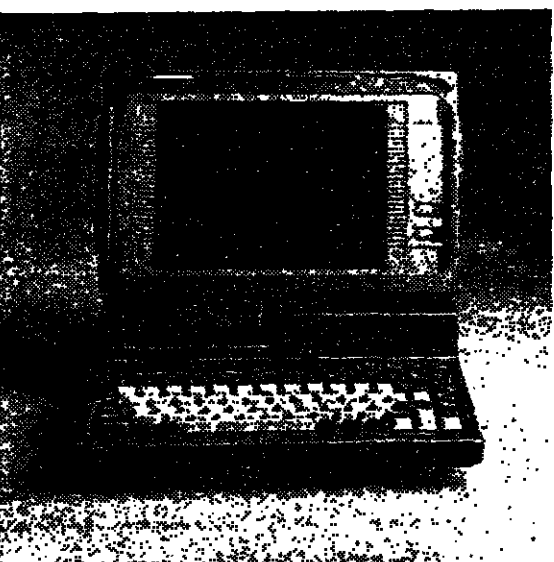
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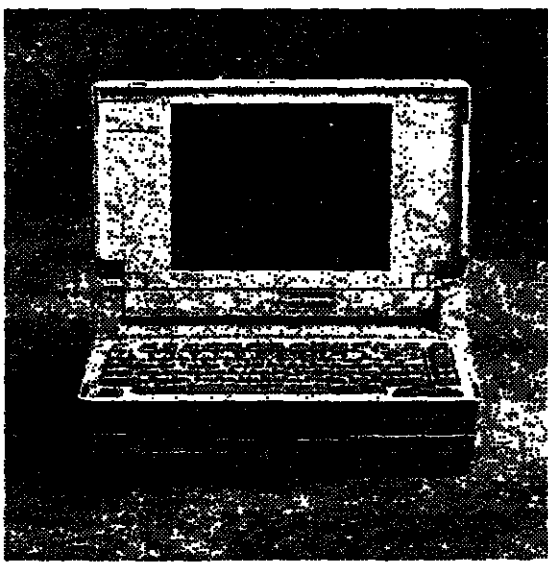
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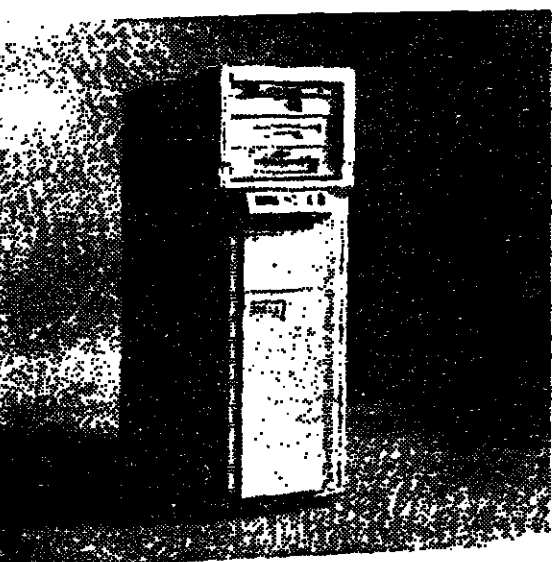
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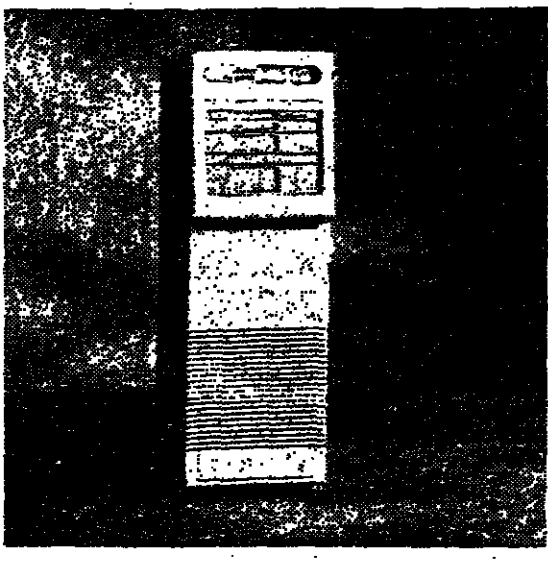
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# Army is poised to act against rebellious Croats and Slovenes

By ROGER BOYES, EASTERN EUROPE CORRESPONDENT

THE Croatian leadership yesterday appealed for calm and a negotiated settlement as a deadline loomed for the handing over of paramilitary weapons to the Yugoslav federal government in Belgrade. But all the indications are that the Serbian-dominated Yugoslav army, mimicking Soviet attempts to intervene against the Baltic republics, is ready to move on the increasingly autonomous Croats and Slovenes.

Can the Yugoslav army apply a "Balkan-style" solution to those members of the federation who want complete independence? The likelihood is that military action now, far from preserving the unity of Yugoslavia, would drive the country towards a grisly civil war and the national implosion that has been predicted since the death of Tito.

The relationship between Serbs and Croats is fundamental to the Yugoslav state. Together Serbs and Croats make up the core of the country, some 60 per cent of the

population, and their shared language is in effect the official language of Yugoslavia. Taken apart, there is confusion — unless there is first a smoothly ordered transition to a looser confederation of more or less independent states.

Croatia and Slovenia, the two republics closest geographically, economically and psychologically to the West, have proposed precisely this: a confederation of sovereign states, with each state possessing its own army and diplomatic service. There would be a confederal parliament and council of ministers, a common currency and a common Yugoslav market. The model is the European Community.

This dream did not seem entirely hopeless last year when free elections brought non-communist administrations to power in many of the republics. Both Slovenia and Croatia have been passing their own laws and amendments which flatly contradict federal

legislation. Slovenia has changed its constitution to transfer control over the Slovenian territorial forces from the federal state presidency to that of Slovenia.

Both states now have their own defence set-ups and, especially in recent weeks, thousands of guns have been smuggled across the Austrian border to arm these forces. But just as the 1989 democratic revolutions seemed to be infectious, so in 1991 is military inspired counter-revolution. The Yugoslav army, some 60 per cent Serb, is drawing conclusions from the Soviet army interventions in the Baltic. Slobodan ("Slobo") Milosevic, the virulently nationalist and still communist leader of Serbia, sees the maintenance of the present federal arrangement as the only way of keeping and expanding Serbian power. The army agrees. Mr Milosevic's wife, Mirjana, a formidable dogmatic communist who critics compare to the late Elena Ceausescu, supports the army's own political grouping.

The parallels with the Soviet actions in Lithuania and Latvia are manifest. Like the Baltic republics, Croatia and Slovenia have set up their own defence forces. Like the Baltic republics, they are economically sophisticated and want to pull westwards towards the European Community. But, as in the Baltic region, there are ethnic minorities to be "defended" by the federal army. Some 12 per cent in Croatia are Serbs. The Yugoslav army, like its Soviet counterpart, considers it has the duty to enforce unity.

The time of multi-national states dominated by one ethnic group (respectively Russians and Serbs) was in any case coming to an end. But without a common ideology there is no political glue at all. The personal contrast between the leaders of the two arguing states makes the point — in one corner there is the Croat, Franjo Tudjman, a fierce anti-communist, in the other Mr Milosevic, an elected communist chief (that special rarity), whose bent is for armed rather than market forces. Yesterday Mr Tudjman let him know what would happen if he over-indulged this taste.



Peking parley: Sir David Wilson, Hong Kong governor, taking his seat at the first talks with Chinese officials on the transfer of power before China regains sovereignty over the colony in 1997

## Aids test sought for ANC exiles

From RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

RETURNING African National Congress exiles should be compelled to undergo tests to establish whether they have Aids, the South African Conservative Party opposition has demanded.

According to new estimates, 315,000 South Africans will be infected with HIV by the end of this year. But although full medical services will be available for the thousands of ANC exiles expected back, none will be forced to undergo a medical examination, according to the government.

This was disclosed in guidelines for the health and welfare needs of the exiles, which have been published by the government. They state that medical services will be available on request, including "full evaluation, identifying transmissible/contagious diseases, treatment, hospitalisation, referral to specialists, psychiatric services and immunisation". But there will be no compulsory medical checks.

The guidelines are designed to ensure that returning exiles are assisted in such a way "that the negotiating process is not retarded". There is a brief reference in the document to a "security evaluation" at points of entry. It says exiles will receive equal rather than preferential treatment, but acknowledges "the uniqueness of exiles' social welfare needs".

State officials will man points of entry to meet the returning exiles and establish their needs. How the programme is to be financed has still to be worked out but the guidelines lay down that state officials must "be prepared to meet the following anticipated needs: food, clothing, housing, transport, social grants, bridging grants, marriage and family problems and any other needs".

● CAPE TOWN: The desegregation of education in South Africa was taken a stage further yesterday as 107 out of 720 previously whites-only schools opened their classrooms to all races in the Cape province (Stephen Taylor writes).

The admission of an estimated 1,500 to 2,000 Coloured and black pupils to the Cape schools was accomplished without reported incident. About 1,000 blacks have been admitted to 35 schools in the Transvaal and a similar number in Natal.

## Emergency session to pass Tirana strike law

From REUTER IN TIRANA

THE Albanian government met in emergency session yesterday as a wave of strikes was reported to be spreading across the country, paralysing transport and threatening the western economy.

The government decided to seek a quick parliamentary approval for a new strike law which would oblige workers to give 15 days' notice of stoppages, and outbids parliament to suspend them if the national interest was threatened.

The Communist party paper *Zeri i Popullit* reported transport strikes in Tirana and the southern town of Korca and a dockers' strike in the biggest port of Durres. "There are problems with public transport, food supplies and raw materials deliveries to factories," the paper said.

As the cabinet met, truck drivers in Tirana and other towns were reported to have joined bus

strikes who began a three-day strike on Monday for a 50 per cent pay rise, trade union sources said.

The government and the country's newly-formed opposition parties, which have agreed to suspend all protests in the run up to elections in March, joined in calling the strikers back to work.

The strikers appear to have been encouraged by the success of mine workers who won increases of 30 to 50 per cent after 1,000 coal miners walked out earlier this month.

● IOANNINA: Hundreds of refugees who fled Albania to Greece this year have returned home in recent days, Greek officials said yesterday.

More than 400 Albanians have been taken to the border by bus since Saturday, after asking to return home, Greek officials in the border towns of Ioannina, Igoumenitsa and Kastoria said.

## Germans fight for estates

From IAN MURRAY IN BONN

AT THE beginning of the last century the Wiersdorf estate in Brandenburg became a centre of the romantic movement as the home of Bettina and Achim von Arnim, two of the most influential German writers of the period. Yesterday the estate was in the limelight again as the von Arnims' descendants started a legal battle in united Germany's highest court to regain possession.

The action is one of 12 test cases being fought through the constitutional court in Karlsruhe by families who are contesting the legality of the German unification treaty, which denies them the right to recover their property in eastern Germany.

Wiersdorf had belonged to the von Arnim family since 1780, but in 1945 the Red Army arrived and confiscated it as part of the so-called land reform, when all estates of more than 250 acres were taken over and parcelled out.

The Soviet Union was responsible for expropriating 8,000 properties and 4,000 businesses and re-allocating them to other families, who have made them their homes for more than four decades. But after East Germany became a sovereign state in 1949, the Soviet Union washed its hands of the affair, leaving no competent authority responsible for what had happened.

At Soviet insistence, the unification treaty sought shy of deciding land ownership. Instead it was agreed that the new Bundestag would debate and vote on the issue, agreeing what the appropriate compensation would be.

About 50 families, including the von Arnims, have decided to fight this as unconstitutional, citing an article of the Basic Law which says "property and the right of inheritance are guaranteed". The von Arnims are not interested in compensation: they want their

historic family estate back, complete with contents.

Other families bringing cases have even older claims. One had owned 260 acres near Prenzlau in Brandenburg since 1656. In 1945 the head of the family was murdered by the Red Army and the widow ordered to leave. Another family with 2,000 acres at Lebus in Brandenburg had fled and discovered from a newspaper report that their lands had been expropriated.

Appearing for the families yesterday, Professor Rüdiger Zuck said the land reform had been nothing more than a communist power policy carried out with no justice at all. Klaus Kinchel, the justice minister, said the government had been unhappy about the clause in the unification treaty but had been under the strongest pressure to complete the treaty. Nevertheless it was still possible to award fair compensation.

### LEGAL NOTICES

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Hardly a street was left unscathed by the Great War. Though far from the gas and machineguns of the front, those living in the remotest parts of Britain were touched by the terror of Gallipoli and the Somme. The postman's knock and the drawing of the curtains symbolised the impact of war upon the nation.

The sense of involvement in the second world war was even greater. Not only were people at home bombed and doodle-bugged, but on VJ-Day, when Japan capitulated, the army alone had nearly three million men and women in uniform. They encircled the globe in various shades of camouflage. Few families did not have someone in its ranks.

So for a time it remained. Ten years after the war, in 1955, Field Marshal Montgomery crisply declared that "National Service is an essential factor in modern defence." The Korean war, the Malayan emergency and the cold war made this a reasonable thesis at the time.

Two years later, however, in the light of Nato's new nuclear strategy, the defence secretary, Duncan Sandys, announced the end of

Henry Stanhope sees no role in the Gulf for our mass, conscripted armies of the past

## A war strictly for the professional

national service. As British troops again enter a war of uncertain intensity and length, the question arises, what might have been if national service had remained?

The reversion to small volunteer forces was inspired not only by the spectre of "the bomb" but by the Suez debacle the previous year. This exposed the weakness of Britain's cumbersome, labour-intensive conventional forces. There was an urgent need to reshape and re-equip them so that they might respond more effectively in a crisis. Just as the Crimea a hundred years earlier had demonstrated the decline of the army and navy since Waterloo, so Suez prompted reform after the second world war.

However, two doubts in particular moved Duncan Sandys' critics. Some argued that there would never be another war, or that if there were, it would be over

in a weekend. In which case, unless the British army adopted a form of conscription like that in Israel (where the forces are ready for battle in 48 hours or so), it would be routed while still issuing mess tins.

Since 1945 we have not been involved in a prolonged conflict, and with luck we never shall be. Though 1968 is the only year this century in which no British soldier was killed in action, military involvement since 1963 (when the last national serviceman left) has been limited. Even the Falklands war was of very limited scope.

On the other hand, the Iran-Iraq war lasted eight years, and whether Britain should have retained at least the machinery for expanding its forces in a crisis remains moot.

The other main criticism of Britain's new model army had to do with the involvement of the

people. The fear was that it might breed a military caste lacking public sympathy and support. British troops fought overseas for much of the second half of the last century, principally in Africa and the Indian sub-continent. They died for causes which in retrospect seem dubious and certainly impinged little on the fabric of social life in Britain. After two world wars, however, national service seemed a responsibility to be shared — not handled by a professional bunch of minders.

Many Americans were even more alarmed when their own draft was brought to an end in the 1970s, after Vietnam. Senator Edward Kennedy was among those who pointed to the danger that the American army might in future have to depend on blacks, Hispanics and other urban poor, forced into uniform by the shortage of jobs. They would fly off, it was

said, to fight and die beneath Old Glory while folks at home could carry on making a living.

The present crisis has once more demonstrated, however, that neither country has been afflicted by such national insouciance. People may be for or against British or American involvement, but the evidence suggests that they still care. This is thanks to the increasing influence of television.

Though the number of servicemen in the Gulf is still small (certainly by comparison with those in the two world wars), concern for their safety and the conduct of the fighting is manifest. Hardly a night passes without some of their mothers and wives being interviewed publicly — or indeed without shots of the encampments in Saudi Arabia. There can be hardly anyone in Britain unaware of the war or the issues involved.

For some years, western generals have been concerned about the influence of television on their operations. They feared that the impact of warfare on Britain's sitting rooms would make people shrink from a war, however just. So far there is no evidence to support this. What television has done is reforge the links between servicemen in the field and people at home, which might otherwise have weakened in the last quarter of a century.

Whether a conscript army could have responded in the Falklands war to the challenge of recapturing an archipelago 8,000 miles away is questionable. Whether amateurs, however gifted, could have mastered in a short time the technologies being deployed now in the Gulf is still more doubtful, for systems that require long training and specialised skills are being used not only by the pilots with

their Mach-3 aircraft, but by army gunners, tank crews and even the humble infantry.

As it is, there are doubts about how far reservists who have not served in the colours for some years can raise themselves to the necessary peak of efficiency on being recalled. They soon find that the knowledge they were so expensively taught is outdated. The Territorial Army too, however able and willing its weekend soldiers, would be stretched on a modern high-tech battlefield.

The pace of technological change on the battlefield is now such that a soldier's training is overtaken in about two years. Although the forces still depend on these reserves in certain specialised areas (as the present conflict has shown), the emphasis will continue to be on highly trained professionals.

The hope must be that the war does not continue long enough to reopen the other question — over the ability of the small, streamlined British forces to do their duty for much longer than England now expects.

The author was formerly defence correspondent of The Times.

Martin Jacques

## Major turns Labour flank

More of the same was the general expectation when John Major took office two months ago, and while this has largely been true of policy overall, there has been a definite change in the style and tone that reveal, more than anything else, a government's priorities and intellectual approach.

So far the shift has been somewhat disguised. This is inevitable, given that Mr Major was Mrs Thatcher's preferred candidate, that the Thatcherites played a crucial role in securing his election, and that the Conservatives can hardly be seen to be rejecting their own past, which would imply that somehow they had previously got it wrong.

But despite the disguise, and although it is still largely a matter of rhetoric, there has been a remarkable change. Mrs Thatcher has gone, and with her has gone much more than anyone expected. I was present at a recent interview with Chris Patten, the party chairman, and in a one-hour discourse the word "market" (the big idea, remember) was mentioned not once.

The single most striking change has been the official recognition that the flagship of the third term, the poll tax, was an error. But one can also identify two marked shifts in emphasis that are likely to be of lasting strategic importance. After a decade of vilifying the public sector, with only an occasional kind word that never carried conviction, ministers now speak about establishing an appropriate balance and partnership between public and private. The Major government has gone out of its way to emphasise that it is the friend of the public services, even giving the idea that if there is money to be spent, they will benefit.

The other change concerns the style of government. The era when government knew best, laying down the law, consulting no-one, and riding roughshod over interested parties, has given way to something far more consensual. One can even imagine — heresy of heresies — a post-election Major government re-establishing consultation with the unions.

This shift in government thinking has not occurred in isolation.

It is a response to a change in public mood and to the return of more collectivist and caring values. And it is driven by a new generation of politicians, whose outlook was formed in a very different period from that of Mrs Thatcher and who were only in their late twenties when she became Tory leader.

Of course, the Tory attempt to assume the collectivist mantle may prove electorally unsuccessful. The legacy of the Thatcher years will continue to stalk them. The government faces an extraordinarily difficult economic climate, which means that the new rhetoric about the public services will remain just that. And attempts to do ideological clothes more associated with one's adversary do not always succeed, as Labour found to its cost with its espousal of monetarism in the late 1970s.

But if the Tories do notch up a fourth consecutive election victory, we shall have moved closer than ever before to one-party government. Why vote Labour when the natural party of government can renew itself in office and so offer the country a new political choice? The Conservatives would have presided over an era of individualism followed by a more collectivist phase, and appeared at home with both.

So far Labour seems oblivious to the danger, still arguing that Major is Thatcher reincarnate. Labour took more than a decade to find a way to come to terms with Thatcherism, and succeeded only when Thatcherism was palpably in decline. Now that the Tories are moving in Labour's direction, Labour itself appears to be banking after the days of Mrs Thatcher when everything was clear and straightforward.

The point can be well made by one of those voguish military metaphors. Labour's conception of politics remains one of trench warfare, in which each adversary is well dug in, always identifiable, and rarely moves more than a few feet from its ideological home. The problem is that Labour's adversary has adopted the Guardian philosophy of mobile tank warfare. It is constantly on the intellectual move, remains highly flexible and is now to be found operating behind enemy lines.

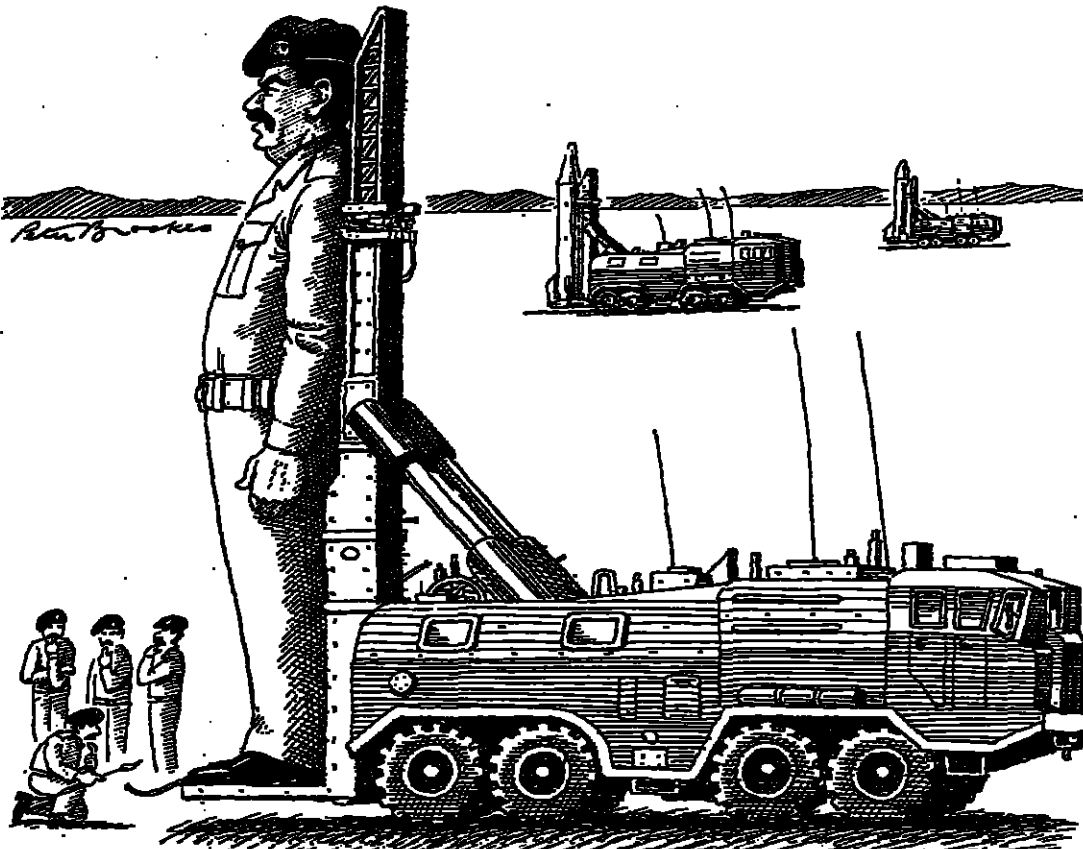
## Will they oust Saddam?

During a crisis in the conflict against Iraq, an Iraqi general, Hamid Al-Ward, said that Saddam Hussein would not have decided to go to war "had he not taken into account all the probabilities and reached the perfect conviction that victory could be realised". The statement was meant to reassure the public, but it can also be seen as a reminder to Saddam of the contract existing between him and his generals. They expected him — as they still do — to be politically and strategically astute and successful. This in turn, provides them with the arena in which the tactical, professional successes he expects of them can be realised.

The series of strategic miscalculations made by Saddam over Kuwait, from the invasion last August to the start of the allied attack, must have caused a number of senior officers to wonder whether Saddam has kept his side of the bargain — indeed, if he is capable of doing so. Looking beyond the purely military impact of the allied attack, therefore, it is worth asking what the likely political impact may be within Iraq. Specifically, do enough well-placed members of the officer corps have sufficiently strong doubts about Saddam's grip on events to make them feel they can, and must, act to remove him?

Examining this key relationship is not easy at the best of times in Iraq. So much depends on the obscure bonds of personal trust that exist between Saddam Hussein and the people around him. Equally, the wise officer is the one who keeps his doubts to himself until he is certain that mutiny will succeed. Nevertheless, given the social origins of the majority of the officer corps, and the pattern of previous run-ins between Saddam and his generals at times of crisis, some possible fault lines in the relationship are visible.

Since the creation of Iraq, 70 years ago, the political order has been dominated by tribes and clans of the Sunni Arab community. Men from family networks based on Baghdad, Al-Dur, Mosul, Samarra and, under this regime, Tikrit, have taken the lion's share of political and military posts. Whenever men from the communities that comprise the other 75 per cent of the Iraqi population have achieved prominence, it has been noteworthy,



Charles Tripp examines the pressure building up within Iraq and identifies the group holding the key to change

something out of the natural order of things.

Where such a social imbalance exists, it is not surprising that the armed forces become a pillar of the regime, whether monarchical or republican, conservative or socialist. Maintaining such a system is a further part of the unspoken compact between an Iraqi ruler and his senior army commanders. It applies no less to Saddam Hussein than to his predecessors.

On previous occasions there have been moves to enforce this compact when it seemed that Saddam had failed to keep his side of the bargain. In 1982, as the Iranians went on the offensive, his strategic miscalculation of launching the war against Iran was called into question. Saddam was saved only by Tehran's refusal to do any deal with the mutinous political-

military establishment in Baghdad.

Then in 1986, after a series of battlefield disasters, Saddam was confronted by some of his generals who told him fairly bluntly that if he continued to intervene in military operations, Iraq would lose the war. Given the military plight of Iraq, Saddam was forced to back down, but he neither forgot nor forgave, and all those defiant generals have now disappeared.

In present circumstances, the attractions of sacrificing Saddam to save the political order cannot have escaped many of the officers. This is particularly the case since most of the states in the coalition ranged against Iraq are probably equally alarmed by the prospect of social upheaval, as opposed to a change of regime, in Iraq.

A related cause of concern to the generals is the degree to which

Saddam's personal intervention in the conduct of military operations may hamper their own professional efforts to organise Iraq's defences and prevent a military defeat. For instance, the abandonment of Kuwait may eventually make sense militarily, but Saddam may resist this because of his commitment to keep it.

In such circumstances, the state of those factors that have hitherto inhibited successful conspiracy will be crucial. On the practical side, the breakdown of communications may hamper the operations of Iraq's many surveillance and intelligence organisations. Equally, if much of the Republican Guard is preoccupied with an allied attack, it will be prevented from performing its other role as "an army to guard the army". On another level, the symbolism of the destruction of

the presidential palace and the Baath party headquarters in Baghdad may not have been lost on those officers eager to dissociate themselves from a regime whose days appear to be numbered.

That which may have been secretly desirable becomes thinkable and feasible. It may also be seen as increasingly necessary — to pre-empt other cliques of ambitious officers — to preserve all that remains of the Iraqi armed forces and to maintain the existing social and political order.

For this reason, it is not inconceivable that some of Saddam Hussein's own clan may become involved. Until now he has treated his kinsmen as a form of trusted inner-circle of advisers and executors of his purpose, in the revolutionary command council, the senior echelons of the Baath party, the intelligence services, the administration and, of course, the armed forces. He knows that they are so identified with him by other Iraqis that, if he goes, they all go. This has been a powerful disincentive to conspiracy, although there have been isolated cases of argument and disobedience.

Under the existing pressures, however, it would not be surprising if some of this inner circle were to decide that by acting now, they might save themselves from general retribution. It is among this group that someone may provide the crucial entry through the barrier of Saddam Hussein's personal security system.

Against such a background, it is unlikely that a successful usurper would look very different from Saddam Hussein, in terms of social origins and general outlook. In so personalised a system of power, however, the point is that he would be a replacement for Saddam Hussein. He could, therefore, reassure the remainder of the officer corps about their privileges. At the same time, he could extract Iraq from the morass of Saddam's strategic miscalculations.

No doubt the rest of the world would be so relieved by this that it would overlook the forging of a new compact of the old kind within Iraq. Indeed, as on previous occasions, it might even welcome such a compact.

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...and moreover

## CRAIG BROWN

Martin Martyn: Reports are just coming in that Saddam Hussein's shoe lace — we don't know yet which one — may well have come undone. To discuss this development, I'm joined by Iraqi ambassador to Alaska, Mr Unp Ronou Nee-ble. Do you accept that Saddam Hussein's shoe lace has come undone?

Mr Nee-ble: We do not. Our president's shoe laces are of the highest quality. That is all I am prepared to say.

Martin Martyn: But if it has come undone, would you accept that this is a severe blow?

Mr Nee-ble: Not so. It would prove a personal triumph. He has no need of laces. His feet are no longer tied. Let his toes be wiggled! Praise to Saddam!

Martin Martyn: I'm now turning to shoe lace manufacturer Downer Teale, live by satellite, from Iowa. Mr Teale, could Saddam's shoe laces become untied with such apparent ease?

Downer Teale: Well, Martin, it's early days yet. Let's not forget that shoe laces can become untied for any number of reasons. First, they can be untied voluntarily by the wearer of the shoe; second, they can be untied by someone else; third, they can be untied by the wearer under pressure from a third party; and finally they can become untied of their own accord.

Martin Martyn: So what you are really saying is that Saddam may have been forced to untie his own shoe lace, and I quote you, "under pressure from a third party"? If I understand you correctly, you believe that

there is someone more powerful than Saddam in the bunker who is forcing him to untie his own laces. A remarkable development, and with me to discuss it, from Stoke Newington, is Mr Dixon of Gunter's Grove, who has long experience of shoes, having worn them since childhood. Mr Dixon, what do you make of this extraordinary new development in the Gulf?

Mr Dixon of Stoke Newington: I must first make it clear that I have always worn slip-on shoes, so I am not fully qualified to talk about lace-ups.

Martin Martyn: Still...

Mr Dixon of Stoke Newington: I believe, nevertheless, that laces can be a nuisance, and there are cases, fully verified, of laces coming undone. Thank you for having me.

Martin Martyn: I have with me now Dr Frank Lee Boguse, a psychiatrist who specialises in personal appearances. Doctor Boguse, what does this tell us about Saddam Hussein's state of mind at the present time?

Dr Boguse: We often find that the shoe lace coming undone is a sign of advanced, paranoid schizophrenia: the patient feels unable to accept the shoe on its own terms, resulting in a totally undone shoe lace, which can of course lead to severe skull fracture, even death, if the patient slips at the top of a particularly high flight of stairs.

Martin Martyn: As you have just heard, reports suggest that Saddam Hussein has fallen to his death down a particularly

high flight of stairs. I have with me, by satellite from the broom cupboard along the corridor, Professor Uta Frand of the International Institute of Television Experts, who is widely considered to be the most expert expert in the world today. Professor, has Saddam a history of shoe lace trouble?

Professor Frand: Well Martin, the last time he had trouble with shoe laces, he is reported to have eaten them in a fit of anger, just as in 1983 he ate a brand-new pair of shoes which were slightly pinching at the heel. It is also widely believed that he served his guests with 22 football boots plus laces at a banquet in his honour as recently as 1986, following the defeat of the Iraqi football team.

Martin Martyn: If I may break in there... We have just had confirmation from official sources that neither of Saddam's shoe laces has come undone in any way whatsoever. Your first reaction, professor?

Professor Frand: A devastating humiliation for Saddam after all the recent claims that they had come undone.

Martin Martyn: A comment from you, Paul Johnson?

Paul Johnson: Oh merciful Lord God of British footwear, we humbly beseech you to tie our enemies' shoe laces together in this most noble of causes.

Martin Martyn: And reports are just coming in that Saddam Hussein's wife's shoe laces too may be still in place... (to be continued around the clock until further notice).

## Taking cover, hard and soft

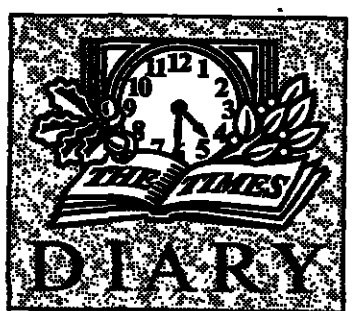
BC foreign affairs editor John Simpson, whose broadcasts from Baghdad riveted viewers in the early days of the Gulf war, has already been signed up to write a book about the conflict. Hutchinson has paid him an undisclosed advance for a personal account of the war, which it plans to publish on the first anniversary of Saddam's invasion of Kuwait in August.

After being expelled from Iraq with other correspondents, Simpson is currently reporting from Amman, and plans to write the book as events unfold rather than wait for the end of the war.

Simpson is the first of the frontline reporters to be snapped up by a publisher, and there will be some disappointment at the BBC, which has its own publishing arm, that he is not writing for them. Hutchinson also published Simpson's *Dispatches from the Barbed Wire*, an account of his experiences in Tiananmen Square, the liberation of Prague and the Romanian revolution.

Other companies are bringing forward publication of books with a bearing on the war. Sidgwick & Jackson has John Pimlott's *The Ultimate Weaponry*, a detailed examination of the high-tech arsenals that have suddenly become part of saloon-bar conversation. Viking and Penguin are each rushing through a history of the Middle East, by Peter Mansfield and David Fromkin respectively.

But literary agent Michael Sissons believes publishers rushing special war titles may be disappointed. "There is such saturation coverage on TV and in the newspapers that people will not want to read instant books," he says. "The real market will be for serious, considered books written when the war is over."



Robert Atkins, the sports minister, flew to Australia yesterday with a personal message from John Major for England's cricketers. To boost morale in the Gulf, Atkins said, the prime minister had instructed him "to tell the England side they must produce a victory in the fourth Test — there's a war on."

## Ready...charge!

Aldershot, Britain's principal army town, faces an increase in its poll tax next year because of the government's refusal to make good any shortfall resulting from the Gulf war.

Two thousand troops from the area are in the Gulf. Many were among the first to be sent and can expect to be there for the six-month period that exempts them from poll-tax payments.

Peter Gardner, head of finance at Rushmore borough council, which covers Aldershot, says: "The effect of the reduced population will be an increase of £14 per head in the community charge in April. Our budgets were worked out assuming that these 2,000 would pay the poll tax, but the revenue will not now be there. We have appealed to the environment department to make up the difference, but to no avail."

Rushmore council decided on Monday not to pursue recovery proceedings against servicemen who have defaulted on their £325 charge, but officials say that some

summonses to those in the Gulf will inevitably slip through.

The problem would not have arisen under the old rating system, when the army paid a lump sum for all its barracks, married quarters and installations.

The DoE said yesterday: "People are always moving in and out of a town. It's up to each local authority to decide whether it can afford to exempt servicemen or not."

## Call of the wild

While allied servicemen and Saudi civilians have the security of gas-masks and chemical warfare suits, London Zoo is worrying about the region's wildlife. Desert herds of gazelle, Arabian oryx, sand cats and foxes could be wiped out in the event of chemical warfare, says the zoo, which runs a number of animal reserves in Saudi Arabia. "In the past, defoliating chemicals

have had terrible effects on wildlife. This could be ten times worse."

British zoologists at the research centre at Tamaba, 40 miles north-west of Riyadh, are preparing as best they can. "It would be a huge task to move the animals out of the area altogether," says London Zoo. "The best hope for the animals is to gather them up and keep them in sealed chambers in the event of a sustained chemical attack."

you have every right to retaliate

have had terrible effects on wildlife. This could be ten times worse."

A total of 12 British zoologists remain, the other 23 having left with the Sudanese and Egyptian labourers. If the situation gets really unpleasant, the animals may have more than chemicals to fear. When Iraq invaded Kuwait, it was widely reported that animals in the zoo were shot for meat.

David Owen, doing his bit for the war effort, immediately answered Tory calls for a doctor in the House when David Lightbown, the heavyweight Tory whip, collapsed outside the Commons chamber during the Gulf debate. Although it is years since he practised, Owen took Lightbown's pulse and advised that an ambulance be called. He then returned to the debate without a word to anyone.

## Cast's cast-offs

The National Theatre is setting up shop in Brixton, to sell off its second-hand costumes. But bargain hunters searching for that little number spotted by Laurence Olivier will be disappointed. Of the 400 or so costumes going on sale in the first week of February, most were largely worn by the ranks of second standard-bearers rather than Hamlets and Lear.

"We have an awful lot of doublet and hose," says Jamie Lee, manager of the theatre's costume, prop and armoury department in Brixton Road, who has now donated the salesman's hat. "The most famous costumes are kept by our archive department."

With a 1960s style revival in full spate, the costumes from plays of that swinging decade will appeal to fashionable trend-setters. The odd mini-skirt, designed for the National's production of *The Good Person of Szechuan*, says Lee, "and we have a fine selection of flared trousers for those who do not want Elizabethan breeches."





## SCUD WARS

Iraq's Scud missiles, fired again against Tel Aviv last night, have shown themselves to be weapons more of terror than of military significance. The evil has so far been contained; largely due to the success of the Patriot anti-missile system. A Scud has no more explosive force than has a conventional bomb.

Yet the Scuds, despite their ineffectiveness, have filled the newspapers and television screens of the world this past three days. They have accordingly delivered Iraq a tactical advantage far out of proportion to any military gain. For the shock wave of a Scud missile does not end when it hits the ground or is shattered by a Patriot in the air. It reverberates through the nation under attack and out to the world over the air waves. Broadcasters, often with little else to report and desperate for action footage, run time and again the same film or sound tapes of Scuds alerts. Scuds approaching and being destroyed, Scuds in pieces on the ground. Far away audiences, especially in the news-saturated USA, are given the impression that Riyadh, Dhahran and Tel Aviv are under perpetual bombardment.

The use of any weapon depending on terror for its effect draws everybody — media, politicians, the people of combatant nations — directly into the strategic balance of war. If they allow themselves to be unduly frightened by such weapons, they concede the terrorist his goal of inducing democratic peoples to undermine the resolve of their governments. Ballistic missiles, like car bombs, are notoriously effective in spreading panic. Used on London in the second world war, V1s and V2s had an effect on civilian morale out of all proportion to the damage they inflicted. The concept of an unmanned, silent missile coming out of the sky, indiscriminate in its target and apparently unstoppable, holds a peculiar horror.

The allied forces in the Gulf have an equal and opposite weapon of counter-terror in the now-famous Patriot system. The exhilaration shown by the Patriot crews is understandable; publicity given to weapon and

crew is a useful counter to the terrorising effect of the Scuds themselves. An even better counter is the law of diminishing returns applied to media sensation, by which Scuds become yesterday's thrill, no longer new enough to be news. And meanwhile cities under bombardment will learn to take the true measure of their peril, and turn panic precautions into everyday routine.

The world is becoming grimly familiar with the calculus of military conflict. Non-participants can understand the elimination of airfields, the destruction of command centres, the destruction of tanks and the killing of soldiers. They can understand that what makes a victory is defeat of enemy troops in the battlefield and the taking of territory. By contrast, few are aware enough of the psychological war, the means by which an enemy can demoralise public opinion, exert pressure on governments and sap the will to fight.

Scuds, for all their military ineffectiveness, have proved their psychological potency, a potency that cannot be met simply with Patriot — or patriotic — salvos. Intrinsic to that potency is the procedure by which each missile attack is predicted, analysed and relayed round the world by the media. If they overstate the role Scuds are playing or might yet play in the conflict, the media can give extra resonance to the terror, a resonance that increases the further the audience is from the point of impact.

Modern war, geographically limited but globally witnessed, is fought by a myriad of weapons. Terrorism is one of them and publicity is the oxygen of terror. The media should be able to cover the war without offering gratuitous oxygen in the relentless repetition of horrific images. But the final line of defence against terror is a robust public opinion, robust enough to assess the real danger of a new weapon and set it in the context of battle. Refusing to be panicked by a bombardment of media images may not call for special bravery. Causing panic is the terrorist's ambition. Denying him that result is the citizen's best revenge.

## ON THE WRONG SIDE

The government has just scored the first victory in its campaign for reform of the European Community's common agricultural policy. The proposals put to agriculture ministers yesterday by Raymond MacSharry, the EC farm commissioner, at last acknowledge that a policy which has steadily increased agricultural spending and kept food prices higher than they need be without improving farmers' incomes is, to use the Commission's own word, "perverse". That is just what British ministers have been saying for a decade. Yet instead of celebrating, John Gummer, the agriculture minister, lined up with his former French, Irish, German and other opponents against Mr MacSharry's modest plans for reform.

The guaranteed support prices paid to cereals, beef and dairy farmers, are generally well above what they would receive in an unprotected market. The Commission is proposing to prune them severely. It would also lower the compulsory ceiling on EC milk production.

The victory does not lie in the specific measures so much as in the Commission's acknowledgement that the support price mechanism has been the engine behind the creation of chronic food surpluses. To ease the pain of transition, however, it proposes to compensate or exempt the majority of EC farmers. These are the small operators, who account for only a tiny part of total output.

This is the proposal that has persuaded Mr Gummer to throw in his weight with the CAP neanderthals. He argues that it imposes an unfair share of the burden of reform on British farmers. British farms are far from huge by international standards. But they are big compared with those on the Continent, where the peasant tradition is more entrenched. On average, they are five times the size of their European counterparts. So some 60 per cent of British dairy

farmers would be affected by the proposed milk quota cut, compared with fewer than 10 per cent in Germany, Belgium and Ireland and 10-15 per cent in France.

From a purely nationalistic point of view, there is some justice in this objection. But there is no such thing as a reform which would affect every country's farmers equally. Mr Gummer needs to keep his eye on the main ball. Instead of niggling in the interests of British dairy farmers, he should first pursue Britain's wider interests.

The vast majority of farmers in most EC countries are no longer needed to produce food. About 60 per cent of cereals production is now generated by only 6 per cent of farmers. Mr Gummer is right to insist that direct subsidies must show clear environmental and social benefit for the EC as a whole. Otherwise farmers should be encouraged to amalgamate to form larger and more competitive units.

Britain should be arguing not merely for cuts in price supports but for their abolition. This would reduce food prices and bring large savings in EC budgetary expenditure, 60 per cent of which still goes on agriculture. Then but only then will be the time for a rational debate on how to help those unviable farmers whose presence on the land is deemed desirable for social reasons. Ministers could then concentrate on encouraging environmentally sound farming among those still able to make a living in the marketplace.

The Gatt negotiations on liberalising international trade will fail unless the EC commits itself to radical reductions in farm subsidies. The EC budget is in crisis. These two facts, taken together, add up to a heaven-sent opportunity for thoroughgoing reform. Mr Gummer will not readily be forgiven if he lets that opportunity pass.

## ARTS OF WAR

Of the countless camp-followers who accompany modern armies into battle, none is more improbable than the official war artist. The office dates only from 1916, when Muirhead Bone was dispatched to France as part of Lloyd George's propaganda effort. Many others followed in both world wars, including Paul Nash, Graham Sutherland and Stanley Spencer. After 1945 the government became reluctant to sponsor such trips — perhaps because photographs, newsreels and then television preoccupied the official mind. Two decades ago the Imperial War Museum revived the tradition. This week, after overcoming lots of red tape, the Hackney painter John Keane is finally leaving for the Gulf.

Is there still a role for sensitive and aesthetic souls on the battlefield? Those who have seen Gérard Depardieu's great performance in the new film of *Cyrano de Bergerac* will have been reminded of the tradition of the soldier-poet. Indeed, the history of war — records innumerable, unmarred figures — from Socrates to Wittgenstein, from Gibbon to Trevor-Roper — whose call to arms paid unexpected intellectual dividends. War has been recorded by artists since the Parthenon, indeed since the dawn of civilisation, in the case of Michelangelo, among others. Leonardo and Michelangelo, among others, were military engineers. The true war artist, conveying at first-hand the viciousness of modern war, is at least as old as Goya.

Much has been made of Mr Keane's left-wing sympathies. His admirers claim that the authorities have political motives for obstructing his departure. Critics wonder why an artist alleged to be critical of the war

should be sent at all. To most observers, this is a desert storm in a teacup. War artists can and do hold all kinds of political opinions. What matters is their eye for the memorable images of war.

In the age of the television war, this is truer than ever before. The screen brings war into sitting rooms thousands of miles from the action; but it never pauses for more than an instant to pick out the significant detail, nor to allow for calm reflection. Paintings and sketches, like photographs, have the magical ability to dwell on a scene. Perhaps even more than the photographer, however, the best war artists can summon up the feelings of those depicted. Henry Moore's air-raid shelter sketches during the Blitz, for example, tell a story which no words could express without sentimentality.

Will Mr Keane be as successful? His technique is apparently to take photographs of his subjects and work them up later in the studio. In principle, there is nothing wrong with this; the camera may well be a more efficient tool than the sketchbook in an age when the speed of weaponry has been accelerated almost to vanishing point. But what matters is less the accuracy of the representation than its flavour.

The mission of the war artist, official or otherwise, is to capture the very smell of war: its brutality and its beauty, its horror and its humanity. What television reports in real time, the war artist aims to capture for all time — so ensuring that the ordeal of this generation helps form the culture of the next.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

### Case for a Middle East Community after hostilities

From Sir John Barnes

Sir, It seems to be assumed in some quarters that a Middle Eastern settlement should be reached by pushing Iraq out of Kuwait and Israel out of the West Bank and Gaza.

Of course, a solution to the Arab-Israeli confrontation is essential, whether by an international conference or another form of negotiation. But I know from painful personal experience that it is counterproductive to tell Israelis what they must do, and particularly for Britain to appear to instruct those who remember the British Mandate to govern Palestine up to 1948.

American diplomacy and our own has been skilful and successful so far in persuading Israel to show restraint in the face of provocation. Persuasion is the right approach; long may it continue to succeed.

I have spoken to friends in Israel by telephone over the past few days. I have found fear, and it must be frightening to sit in a gas mask for hours in a sealed room waiting for a bomb and unable to do anything about it. But I have also found steady support, in unexpected quarters, for the Israeli government's wisdom and restraint.

But whatever happens in the short term, permanent security in the area will not be achieved by drawing new lines on maps. What matters is the attitude of people on either side of the lines. There is deep suspicion on both sides now. "The Arabs" and "the Jews" have become stereotypes of evil. But at least the Gulf crisis has, I hope, shown the Israelis that not all Arabs are equally hostile and shown the Arabs that Israel is capable of moderation.

I have previously advocated in your columns (November 19, 1988) a Middle Eastern Community on the lines of the European Community. Just as Europe has seen the end of hostility between Gaul and Teuton, so it is to be hoped that the settlement after this war will aim not just at territorial adjustments but at a framework which will end hostility between Arab and Jew.

In this context, it is worth reminding our Arab friends that in 1941 Winston Churchill, though a long-standing foe of communism, welcomed the Russians as allies against the greater immediate menace of Hitler.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN BARNES  
(Ambassador to Israel, 1969-72),  
Hampstead Lodge,  
Hampstead, London,  
January 22.

From Mr Geoffrey Gelberg

Sir, On the basis of the enemy of my enemy being my friend, an unprecedented and possibly never to be repeated opportunity will shortly present itself to Israel and Syria to make a similar peace to Camp David.

I pray that mutual statesmanship will prevail to enable this opportunity to be seized.

Yours faithfully,  
GEOFFREY GELBERG,  
92 Hurstwood Road, NW11,  
January 21.

From Mr Winston Fletcher

Sir, Has the Pentagon never heard of Quintus Fabius Maximus, who refused to engage Hannibal's superior army in pitched battle because he knew he would lose? Instead he took his time, conserved his forces, engaged in endless small skirmishes and eventually won.

Perhaps Saddam Hussein is a more thorough student of military history than the allied commanders, who seem astonished, indeed livid, that he has refused to come out fighting and be defeated.

Yours faithfully,  
WINSTON FLETCHER,  
Souldern Mill,  
Bicester, Oxfordshire,  
January 22.

From Mr Robert E. Durbin

Sir, I am presently in London on business and had the privilege of watching much of yesterday's Commons debate on the war on television. Of particular note was Neil

Kinnock's speech (report, January 22). Although in past years I have found little or no common ground with his positions, his statement of aims and goals for the Middle East was the most concise, logical and well constructed that I have heard to date.

It was with some chagrin that, later in the day on CNN, I listened to a jumble of purported "American positions" on the Gulf war which consisted of little more than misdirected, hackneyed shibboleths totally devoid of any logic or reason. When compared to Mr Kinnock's speech, they were an embarrassment. Again, my compliments to the gentleman.

Yours sincerely,  
ROBERT E. DURBIN,  
As from: 2601 Marber Avenue,  
Long Beach,  
California 90815, USA,  
January 22.

From Mr R. K. D. Shah

Sir, Far from moving his HQ to Geneva or Cairo, as suggested by Professor Kirkwood today (January 21), the UN Secretary General should stay where he is or, better still, resign.

Not only did he choose a particularly inept form of words to describe his encounter with Saddam Hussein ("I did not find a lady to tango with") but upon his return from his abortive mission to Baghdad he explicitly washed his hands of the whole affair by saying there was nothing further that he could do.

His total lack of enthusiasm for the positive and interventionist role that he is supposed to play as the chief executive of the world body is in marked contrast to his distinguished predecessors. He has ceased to command the respect of all of us who were brought up to believe in the UN as an instrument of peace, not of war.

Yours truly,  
RAMNIK SHAH,  
Wayne & Co. (Solicitors),  
5 Laings Corner, London Road,  
Mitcham, Surrey,  
January 21.

### Plight of POWs and penalty for their maltreatment

From Mrs Geraldine Peters

Sir, I felt angry and sick at heart for the families of those captured airmen whose photographs dominated your front page this morning. What can the feelings of these families be, knowing that the suffering of their loved ones is being paraded before hundreds of thousands through the media?

What effect this display has on the morale of serving men and their families I cannot judge, but it is a calculated part of Saddam Hussein's psychological warfare. Surely we do nothing but aid his purpose by proliferating such hideous propaganda.

Yours faithfully,  
G. M. PETERS,  
Cresva, Tregew Road,  
Flushing, Falmouth, Cornwall,  
January 22.

From Colonel C. de Lisle

Sir, In the Commons on Monday (report, January 22) much discussion rightly took place over the future of the Middle East in general and Kuwait in particular after the successful conclusion of the war in the Gulf.

Perhaps because of the fond hope that he would no longer be with us at the end of hostilities less was said about the future of Saddam Hussein, who was responsible for the rape of Kuwait, the appalling atrocities perpetrated in his name as outlined in the recent report by Amnesty International and the POW/hostage violation of the Geneva Convention.

But if this convenient hope is not realised what happens? Only yesterday morning Washington, commenting on the human shield violation, said that Saddam Hussein would be held accountable. A war crimes trial?

My one who, many years ago, had a title to do with affairs in the Middle East, urged that in any such trials the West is not judge and jury but that the United Nations arrange that such matters are left to the Arab League. The President of Egypt would seem to be a most suitable person to convene such a meeting.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
C. de LISLE,  
Rabley Park, Ridge,  
Nr Porters Bar, Hertfordshire,  
January 22.

From Wing Commander W. Stapleton (retd)

Sir, I was "reassigned" to hear the prime minister and the leader of the opposition warn the Iraqi authorities that those responsible for any mistreatment of our prisoners of war would be brought to account at the end of the war (report, January 22).

However, I would express the hope that they are as firm in their resolve when that happy day arrives; such a pledge was made before, over the 50 Allied aircrew officers who were murdered by the Gestapo during "The Great Escape" in 1944.

In June 1944 the foreign minister, Anthony Eden, assured Parliament that "His Majesty's Government... are firmly resolved that these foul criminals shall be tracked down;

they will be brought to exemplary justice".

In fact, only a small detachment (five officers and 14 NCOs) of the Special Investigation Branch of the Royal Air Force was allotted the task — and its authority was dissolved by the decision of the British government to begin no more trials against war criminals after August 31, 1948. That the SIB did such a splendid job, with few resources, was due to their motivation and total dedication.

Yours sincerely,  
W. STAPLETON,  
42 Gordon Place, W8,  
January 21.

From Mr J. A. G. Hill

Sir, After about three years as POWs on the Thailand-Burma railway two other Britons and I and three Australians were taken first to Bangkok and then to Singapore.

In both these places we were kept together for several weeks in a room with a Korean guard with us day and night. During this time we were not physically ill-treated but were subjected to intense psychological pressure by teams of Japanese propaganda specialists and Kempeitai (Gestapo) to try to get us to broadcast propaganda.

We all withstood this pressure, but some previous warning and advice would probably have been helpful.

Yours faithfully,  
J. A. G. HILL,  
Tydney Lodge, Newnham,  
Basingstoke, Hampshire,  
January 21.

city of Portobello. It must have made quite a funeral pyre.

Operation Raleigh, the successor to Operation Drake, runs challenging expeditions for young people in remote areas world-wide, but we do not support attempts to remove Sir Francis Drake from his rightful burial place.

We should remember Sir Henry Newbolt's words:  
Call him on the deep sea, call him up  
the Sound,  
Call him when ye sail to meet the  
Drake yet.

In these dark days we may need Drake yet.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN BLASHFORD-SNELL,  
(Director General),  
Operation Raleigh,  
Alpha Place, Flood Street, SW3,  
January 17.

which serves a community within a region with a poor record in terms of staying-on rate. This school has a staying-on rate of well over 50 per cent, considerably higher than the national average and very much higher than the regional average. Many hundreds of adults in our community are re-entering education through the school and so acquiring these flexible skills which Martin Jacques so rightly regards as being crucial to our future. The presence of these adults has also a significantly beneficial effect upon the motivation of our students in the 11-18 age range.

I am, yours sincerely,  
JOHN BURN (Headmaster),  
Longbenton Community  
High School,  
Hailsham Avenue, Longbenton,  
Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

### Smoking sponsors who beat TV ban

From the Chairman of the Regional Directors of Public Health Group

Sir, A Health Education Authority publication, *Beating the Ban*, recently highlighted what appear to be continual breaches of the voluntary agreement between the tobacco industry and the Department of the Environment. Cigarette advertisements have been banned on British television since 1965, yet the coverage on BBC television of tobacco-sponsored sporting events has continued with the use of the sponsor's name in television screen titles and in publicity material, colour-coding of participants' vehicles and equipment and exposure of static boards for prolonged uninterrupted periods.

All of this continues on the BBC, despite the 1987 decision by the ITV companies not to televise tobacco-sponsored sporting events. Such an apparent persistent disregard by the BBC of Parliament's intentions has continued long enough.

The directors of public health in the 14 English health regions urge the BBC to stop broadcasting tobacco-sponsored events. The deep concern frequently expressed about the danger of smoking, particularly in childhood, can only be undermined by the continued promotion of cigarettes on the most powerful medium to which children are exposed.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL O'BRIEN, Chairman,  
Regional Directors of Public Health Group,  
c/o East Anglian Regional Health Authority,  
Union Lane,  
Chesterford, Cambridgeshire,  
January 16.

### Fish stocks

From Dr Trevor Kennea

Sir, Once again staff from the agriculture ministry's fisheries laboratory at Lowestoft are claiming (report, January 12) that fish stocks (this time those of bass) are not endangered by commercial trawling and that existing conservation measures are adequate.

On many occasions in the past the initial reaction of the laboratory to unambiguous evidence of declining catches per unit of fishing effort has been that scientific justification has been lacking for the assertion that there has been overfishing. Repeatedly but belatedly they have been proved wrong. Examples of North Sea herring and of mackerel in the Western Approaches and Celtic Sea serve as illustrations.

The records of almost any sea angling club in the south or south-west of the British Isles will show that catches of bass have fallen dramatically over the last 30 years. Many former bass-anglers have, like me, forsaken their sport because rewards for considerable effort have been vanishingly small.

The superb but slow-growing and therefore vulnerable bass is urgently in need of greater protection than at present from commercial over-exploitation. Only thus will the angler's sport be revived to the level of the past and the professional bass-fisherman's livelihood be protected from his own folly.

Yours faithfully,  
TREVOR KENNEA,  
1 Montague, Summerhouse Road,  
Godalming, Surrey,  
January 12.

### Spirit of enterprise

From the Reverend Bernard T. Croft

Sir, Cheltenham may still be black with priests at Gold Cup time (Lord Vestey's letter, January 9) though today the cloth, Roman or Anglican, is often of a lighter hue, and the collar softer.

Ordained with me at Sheffield in 1935 there was one St Leger Blakeney who served his title at Wath-on-Deane when I went to Conisborough; both near enough to Doncaster of St Leger fame. And after Bishop King's time at Lincoln the wife of a diocesan there I remember being dubbed the Lincoln Handicap.

Back in 1823 the Reverend Emilius Bayley was named after the Derby winner. He became Vicar of St George's, Bloomsbury, later changing his surname to Laurie and living at Maxwellton outside Dumfries, one-time home of the famous Annie. There he served the little chapel in the grounds of Maxwellton House as an Episcopalian priest.

Yours faithfully,  
BERNARD T. CROFT,  
4 Freeman's Court,  
Water Lane, York,  
January 18.

### Thanks but no thanks

From Mr Kevin Green

Sir, A number of people appear to stop drinking alcoholic beverages during January, to recover from their Christmas excesses and to rest their overworked livers. It seems too severe to pronounce, in restaurants, that one is "teetotal"; and confusing to say "I'm not drinking" when water is perfectly consumable. Can anyone suggest a less defensive or negative phrase?

Yours,  
KEVIN GREEN,  
81 Cranbrook Road, Chiswick, W4,  
January 17.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.











# Men, myths and fighter pilots

Chris Peachment considers the legend of the pilot at war, and whether the image is changing

"It ran on rails." (Pilot in first wave of aerial bombardment of Iraq)

Man has always dreamt of flight. But his longing to soar with the birds could not reach fulfilment until technology caught up with it. The basics of aerodynamics were sorted out 200 years ago, but it was not until the internal combustion engine gave us a power source with a decent power-to-weight ratio that our desires became reality. The mythology of flight began about one minute later.

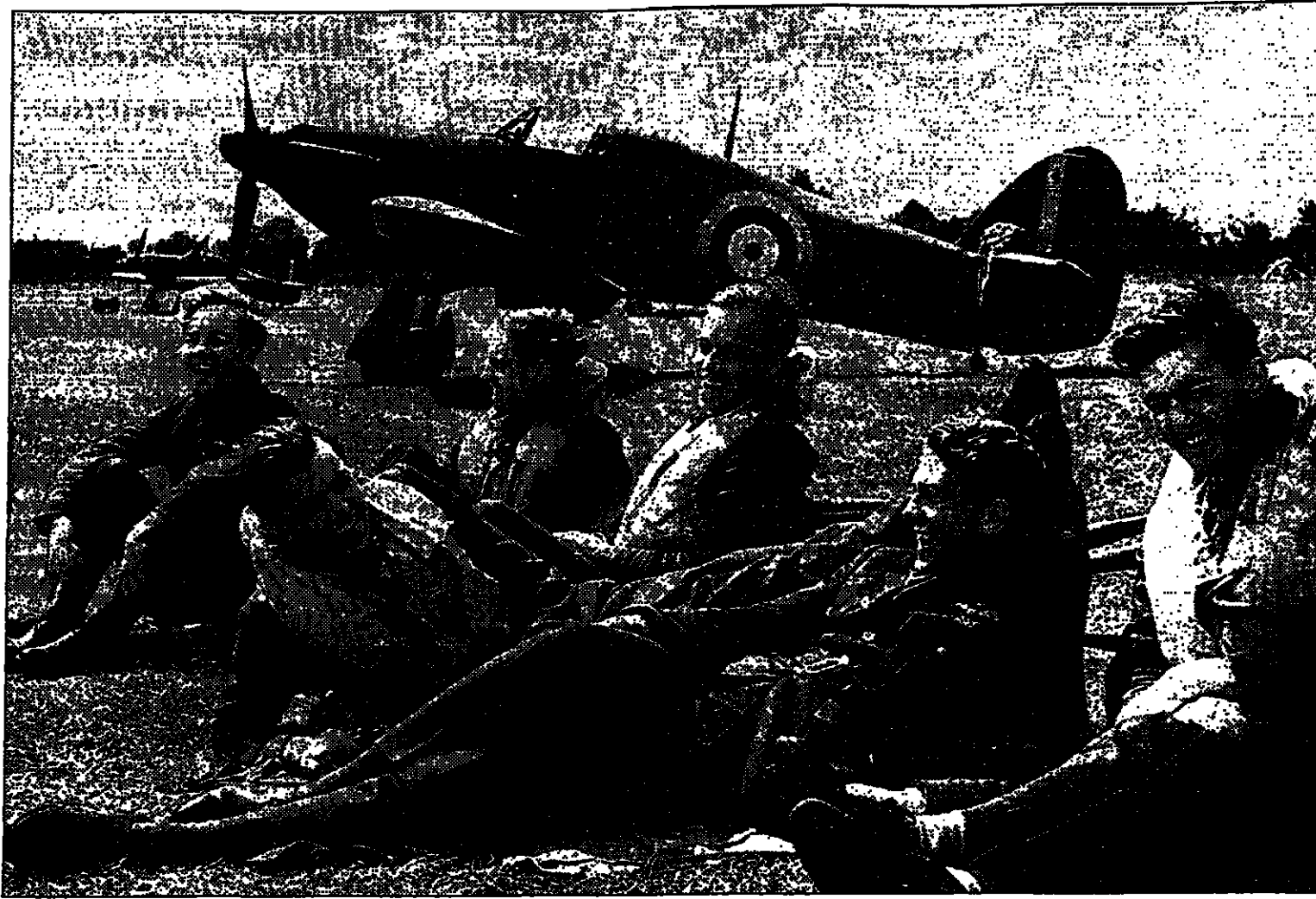
Our image of the fighter pilot as a god-like creature, unrestrained by gravity, must have begun in the first world war. The poor trench soldier floundering in the mud looked up and saw someone in the fastest machine in the world, engaged in a duel which looked more like a graceful, three-dimensional dance. The fighter pilot was clearly a superior form of being.

In fact, conditions were often just as bad for him as for the infantry, and the attrition rate equally appalling. But the mystique of aerial combat was formed by the likes of the Canadian Billy Bishop, the Irishman Mick Mannock, and the German "Red Baron", Manfred von Richthofen. These were the Knights of the Air.

That sublimated persists, even though the first world war was the last time when chivalry did, indeed, exist between opponents. With open cockpits and personal insignia emblazoned on their aircraft, opposing pilots were known to each other. Combat was often broken off if, say, the opponent's guns jammed.

By the time of the Battle of Britain, tactics dictated a form of combat which in other spheres would have seemed cowardly. The fact that fighter pilots sneaked up on the enemy plane from the rear, and hit before they were spotted, was publicly played down. "Get in quickly, punch hard, get out smartly" was the motto of the Battle of Britain pilot "Sailor" Malan's tenth "commandment".

Still they were special, because they knew something never available to man before he could fly. Richard Hillary, the Battle of Britain pilot who returned to combat after having been badly burnt in a crash, put it like this: "The pilot is a race of men who... through their daily contact with death, have realised, often unconsciously, certain fundamental things. It is only in the air that a pilot can grasp that feeling, that insight, which



Battle of Britain pilots: a race of men, Richard Hillary wrote, matured beyond their years through "daily contact with death"

matures him beyond his years."

And Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, the greatest writer aviation has yet produced, wrote: "For me, piloting my plane, time has ceased to run sterile through my fingers. Now finally I am installed in my function... I am he who holds the course and checks the compass."

This mythologising has never ceased. It reached its greatest expression in recent years in Tom Wolfe's *The Right Stuff*, a eulogy for the first American astronauts and their mentor, the fighter-ace Chuck Yeager. Wolfe anatomised just what it took for a man to strap himself to a rattling, fire-belching hunk of machinery, and face the prospect of dying spectacularly on television.

The film *Top Gun* came in for a lot of stick for glorifying military hardware. Nearly every reviewer declared it a gaudy recruitment poster for the US Navy Air Force. What they missed, but what the film's large young audience picked up on, was that fighter pilots were the latest rock stars. They were young, fit and did things nobody else could. They were also arrogant, but they are probably the only men whose arrogance seems justified.

In my own brief and spectacularly unsuccessful career as a pilot, some

20 years ago, there were precious few serving pilots who had ever experienced combat. Nor was there any prospect of war on the horizon. Since then we have had the Falklands conflict, but that was a much more limited engagement involving primarily Royal Navy pilots. This may well be the first generation of RAF pilots for 40 years to enjoy the dubious experience of being shot at.

Like the pilots portrayed in *The Right Stuff*, airmen frequently display a nice line in laconic understatement. Witness some of the quotes from the interviews with returning pilots in the Gulf.

"I saw the most fantastic firework demonstration." (Col Walton)

"This is how the big boys play. If you're gonna piss on a tree, you'd better be a pretty big dog." (Col Keith Kellogg)

"The landscape gardeners." (41 Tornado Squadron's nickname)

"With triple A [Anti Aircraft Artillery] coming at you, it concentrates the mind wonderfully. It was the longest minute of my life. You then concentrate on running away bravely. It was bloody great." (Tornado pilot)

And then there is the other side of

combat. The truth which is disguised by words, devised during the Vietnam war, such as "body count", "containment", "termination", "surgical strike".

There has been some surprise at the fullness of emotion shown by pilots returning successfully after the first wave of attacks. We have become used to a careful use of quotes in the media, not just for the sake of morale, but also to maintain the mystique of the jet jockey who is made of 100 per cent righteous, victory-rolling stuff. But here were three seasoned pilots close to tears.

"It's clinical, it's terribly clinical. There is a constant awareness that in a few seconds' time you may not exist. You train to control your emotions, and when it really matters you can..." (Sqn Ldr Pablo Mason, as he broke down in tears)

"I was in tears when I got back, essentially because we had lost a wingman. At the moment I am going through the full range of emotions, from elation right down to dread and the fear of flying." (Flt Lt Mark Paisley)

"We went in that far and survived, but we came back in tears." (Sqn Ldr Stapleton)

What is this? A serious failure of the Right Stuff? Men who have been

reading, in *Esquire* and *GQ*, that it is OK for them to show their emotions? Actually, it is neither of these. Pilots have always experienced strong emotion, and have never been afraid to show it. It may manifest itself in strange, often violent ways. But it is nothing new. "Normally this warfare is thrilling, and a successful scrap puts me on top of the world - but I won't deny it has its frightening moments." (George Barker, *Battle of Britain*, 1940)

"Truly one learns only by sorrow; it is a terrible education the soul gets, and it requires a terrible grief that shakes the very foundation of one's being to bring the soul into its own." (Major Lance Hawker VC, CO of No 24 Squadron, 1916)

Is this the talk of "Real Men"? No, it is not. Real men have probably never heard of the concept of the "Real Man". What they do is what they are paid to do. In this case a little landscape gardening. And if you find that euphemism shocking for what it conceals, then the last, chilling words can go to Tony "Mad Dog" Maddox, an A10 pilot in the USAF, who said, after a successful bomb run into Kuwait:

"They were awake, but they are asleep now."

## How to adopt another country

Whitehall marchers will today demand measures on adopting foreign babies

Couples who want to adopt a foreign baby might do well to consider which country they enjoy visiting, or whose culture they admire. Barbara Mostyn, who adopted two Indian children and is chairman of the Campaign for Inter-Country Adoption (CICA) being launched in London today, says that when you adopt such a child, you also adopt a country.

"My mother was a history professor and her great hero was Gandhi, so I grew up with a special feeling for Asian people," Mrs Mostyn says. "When I heard about a doctor who arranges adoption from a hospital in Delhi, I knew it would be right for me."

Besides explaining why a child was abandoned, you have to help the child to come to terms with being symbolically rejected by his or her country. If you do not respect that country you have a dilemma. You have to have a genuine affection for your adopted child's place of birth in order to make the effort to sustain their interest and allow them to grow up being proud of their roots.

"I do not seek out Asians in a premeditated way, but I have some very good friends who are Asian. We all have a traditional suit of trousers and long tunic which we wear on special occasions like birthdays, and the children go to a Rudolf Steiner school which is multi-cultural. They were both just a few months old when I adopted them and did not have names so I deliberately gave them international names which everyone can pronounce and recognise; there are equivalents to them in India. Although Joshua, who is seven now, went back to India with me when I adopted Sophia, who is four, they do not know their country yet. I will take them when they can appreciate it more."

Forty British families with children they have adopted abroad will wave the flag of their original countries when they march down Whitehall to Downing Street today. With social workers involved in foreign adoptions, and representatives of Stork, a self-help organisation for couples who want to adopt abroad, they will present a petition calling on the government to press for proper international procedures to control and monitor inter-country adoption.

Mrs Mostyn, a former chairman of the National Association of the Childless, estimates that up to 20,000 children are adopted across national boundaries every year, and that between 600 and 800 of them come here.

Besides the well-publicised plight of the children in Romania, the reason people have been rushing to adopt from there is that they look European, like us. Nevertheless parents must be prepared to understand their art, music and literature. There used to be a trend to adopt babies from Korea and Bangladesh, but they have closed their doors now and I think this will happen more and more."

Stork produces a fact sheet on adoption procedures in 25 countries and, when couples decide on a country, can put them in touch with people who have adopted from there.

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Mrs Mostyn, aged 48, was a hopeless case as far as UK adoption was concerned, because she was then 41 and divorced. "I heard about a single girl adopting two babies in India, and I thought about it for a long time. Because I had already been accepted as a council foster mother, the formalities in India were straightforward, but I had difficulty here because I had no entry visas for them."

"One of the warmest feelings you get as the adoptive parent of a foreign child is in the birth country. They want you to become familiar with their lifestyle, so you can pass it on to the child. It is an extra responsibility, so you want to do it right."

HEATHER KIRBY  
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DES JENSON



Cultural respect: Barbara Mostyn with Joshua and Sophia

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## A doll dressed for success

Do children of working mothers need a toy they can identify with? Mummy Doll is about to go to work here

AFTER a generation of blonde bimbo Barbies and simpering Sindys, at last there is a role model for children of the Nineties - a working mother doll.

With her navy suit, clinging baby and slightly harassed expression, Mummy Doll is already a hot seller in the United States (where she is known as Mommy Doll) and will be launched here on Saturday at the Toy Fair, with important modifications. Because British women no longer dress for success, there

is more emphasis in this country on a jogging-suited variation, and the British version includes underwear.

"Children here are pre-occupied with propriety - the first thing they do with a doll is to look under its skirt and see if it has knickers," says Nicola Basham, the group marketing manager for Bluebird Toys, which is importing the dolls to Britain. "We also added a nappy

for the baby and a baby-carrier for the suited version of the doll, which in America is obliged to bundle the baby under her arm."

Mummy Doll is the brainchild of Cindy Stern, an American working mother who conceived the idea while teaching at nursery school, where she says she saw children repeatedly grouping dolls into mother-and-baby pairs. She determined to create a range of dolls that would depict "the full range of female opportunities in the Nineties. We don't make any judgments about going off to

work or being a mom who stays home." Which working mother will the British market identify with: "Off to Work" (suit, briefcase and heels), "On the Run" (track-suit, shopping bag and trainers) or the beautifully-frocked "Out for Fun"?

In the States, Mommy Doll is said to be a comforting creature at nursery school or the childminder's, a reassuring symbol during separation from a mother. In Britain, research indicates, Mummy Doll is far more likely to be adapted for parallel play.



Role model: Mummy Doll

It was particularly welcomed in households where a second baby was due, Ms Basham says of Bluebird's research.

"Little girls organise her to look after her own baby, then settle down to play alongside."

With a sales target of 100,000 for 1991, at £29.95 apiece, Bluebird hopes to make a significant dent in the £50 million market for baby and fashion dolls.

It does not expect to knock Barbie or Cindy off the shelf yet. "Those dolls, who are basically clothes-hangers, give a great deal of pleasure to girls aged nine and over, the Mummy Doll is targeted mainly at the under-eights."

Some things, it seems, never change. Mummy Doll's most indispensable accessory is not her briefcase, her baby-carrier or even her baby - but her comb. "The second thing any little girl wants to do with a doll is comb its hair," Ms Basham says.

ANTHEA GERRIE  
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## How long can you put off making a will?

(7 out of 10 people leave it too late)

Making a will is one of life's most important decisions. Yet it's one decision most people never make.

Too many wrongly assume all they own automatically goes to their next of kin. Only by making a proper legal will can you be sure all your wishes are carried out in full.

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## Pools cash for 'pool'

RIDING a crest after its 150th birthday, first with a Prudential Award and then with £100,000 from the Arts Council's enhancement fund, the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic has launched an appeal to keep a roof over its head. The gloriously deco Philharmonic Hall in Hope Street, barely 50 years old, is structurally flawed and needs £6 million spent on it—£1.5 million for immediate remedial work to prevent it closing in 1993. The Phil may have timed it right: Peter Moore of the Littlewoods pools family has already given a cheque for £1 million to get the appeal started.



Peter Moore: benefactor

## Fresh fruit

PRINCESS Alexandra will attend a gala performance to mark the opening of the new Orange Tree Theatre in Richmond next month. The opening production is Arthur Murphy's *All in the Wrong*, a comedy written in 1760. The play stars Liz Crowther and Paul Shelley, in a tale of love and jealousy directed by Sam Walters. In its bid to have more space, the Orange Tree is moving to a reconstructed school in Clarence Street, across the road from its existing site in southwest London.

## Last chance

JOAN Collins did not turn out to be a conventionally unconventional Noël Coward heroine. On the whole, she seemed more stately and waxy than mischievous and sparkling. Certainly, her return to the stage last year as Amanda in Coward's *Private Lives* excited the show-biz columnists and paparazzi more than the critics. Last chance to check which party was right: Saturday, at the Aldwych (071-336 6404).

## OPERA

# Polishing the stars until they shine

They also serve who put the principals through their paces: Richard Morrison goes behind the scenes of an opera in preparation

Room C in English National Opera's rehearsal studios is a grimy, purposeful den. "We call this cell block C," says the man at the piano, before turning his attention to haranguing the woman. Her singing sounds pretty good to me, in this confined space it seems a massive sound, negotiating the twisting Bartók line with finesse. Yet, to the sharp ears of Philip Thomas, an ENO vocal coach, there is more work to be done. Much more.

"Watch that diphthong. Use the T. Not too closed on the 't'. Too white, your tone there." They work through the music, barely two syllables at a time. Each phrase is sung perhaps 20 times before they move on. A full five minutes is spent on the word "velvet".

The woman makes another pencilled jotting in an already littered score. "On stage, there's only a limited amount you can consciously remember," she admits. "I give myself trigger thoughts: for instance, just before the top C, I think of some technical advice given to me by Josephine Veasey [ENO's vocal consultant]."

Some well-used journalistic phrases give an odd idea of what the profession of opera singer is all about. "A born actor", "an effortless top C", "natural vocal beauty": the impression conveyed is that filling a theatre with vocal sound is, for those with talent, as simple as turning on a tap to fill a bath.

That notion is dispelled by even a cursory examination of the "plumbing" involved in making one singer ready for one gruelling role. Last week, the mezzo-soprano Sally Burgess was being put through the torture of cell block C. Tonight, she sings the part of Judith in ENO's new production of Bartók's *Duke Bluebeard's Castle*. How did she prepare for it, and how did ENO—which prides itself on its ensemble spirit—help her?

"My primary function," says Philip Thomas, "is to make sure the singers are producing the right pitches of the right duration in the right place." But many singers also regard the coach as their most trustworthy critic. "Sally and I have worked together so often that I can be totally honest," says Thomas. "Yes, I trust his opinion; a rare thing," says Burgess.

"A vocal coach," continues Thomas, "survives because singers cannot really hear the sound they are making." So Thomas sits in the auditorium during dress rehearsals, making the detailed notes about his singer's performance.

But by that stage the singer will have much more to remember than

the eradication of diphthongs. Opera producers are increasingly making odd physical demands. David Alden's new production of *Bluebeard*, for instance, will at one point require Burgess and her Bluebeard, Gwynne Howell, to deliver their complex music while rolling down a sloping stage.

Such ideas do not always receive ringing endorsements from ENO's musical staff. "You have to admire singers for giving it a go," says Victor Morris, ENO's head of auditions. "I mean, Lady Macbeth had to sing while leaning over a bed, suspended on a wall, half-way up to the flies."

In a leading role, enormous demands are also placed on a singer's diction, stamina and memory. A small memory lapse need not be a disaster; the Coliseum, in common with other big opera houses, has a tiny prompt box at the front centre of the stage, where a music staff member crouches,

*'Lady Macbeth had to sing leaning over a bed suspended half-way to the flies'*

hissing the words a bar or two in advance. A look of longing on a prima donna's face may have nothing to do with the love scene being enacted, and everything to do with her panic if the tenor comes between her and the prompt.

Such things will not happen at the Coliseum tonight. Nevertheless, Victor Morris finds that good musicians do not necessarily memorise music easily. "Wonderful sightreaders often find memorising difficult. Their perception of the music is perhaps too fast to begin with. Someone who needs to have the music drummed into them often memorises from the start."

So much for the short-term performing pressures on an opera singer. But the long-term worries about "career" are perhaps more draining still. It emerges, rather

bizarrely, that the first thing young singers should be wary of is the singing teacher.

"Oh yes," confirms Veasey, "you often hear young singers who are already ruined." Anthony Legge, who is ENO's head of music, amplifies the point: "Many singing teachers have gone straight from having been student singers themselves into teaching. They have no experience of performing at a high level. What they can impart is limited."

Having emerged from college, a would-be opera singer has to prove ability with frightening speed. Sally Burgess was lucky. Though she came to ENO straight from the Royal College of Music, she was given the cushion of a three-year contract. "I didn't feel under threat of instant dismissal if I didn't produce instant results."

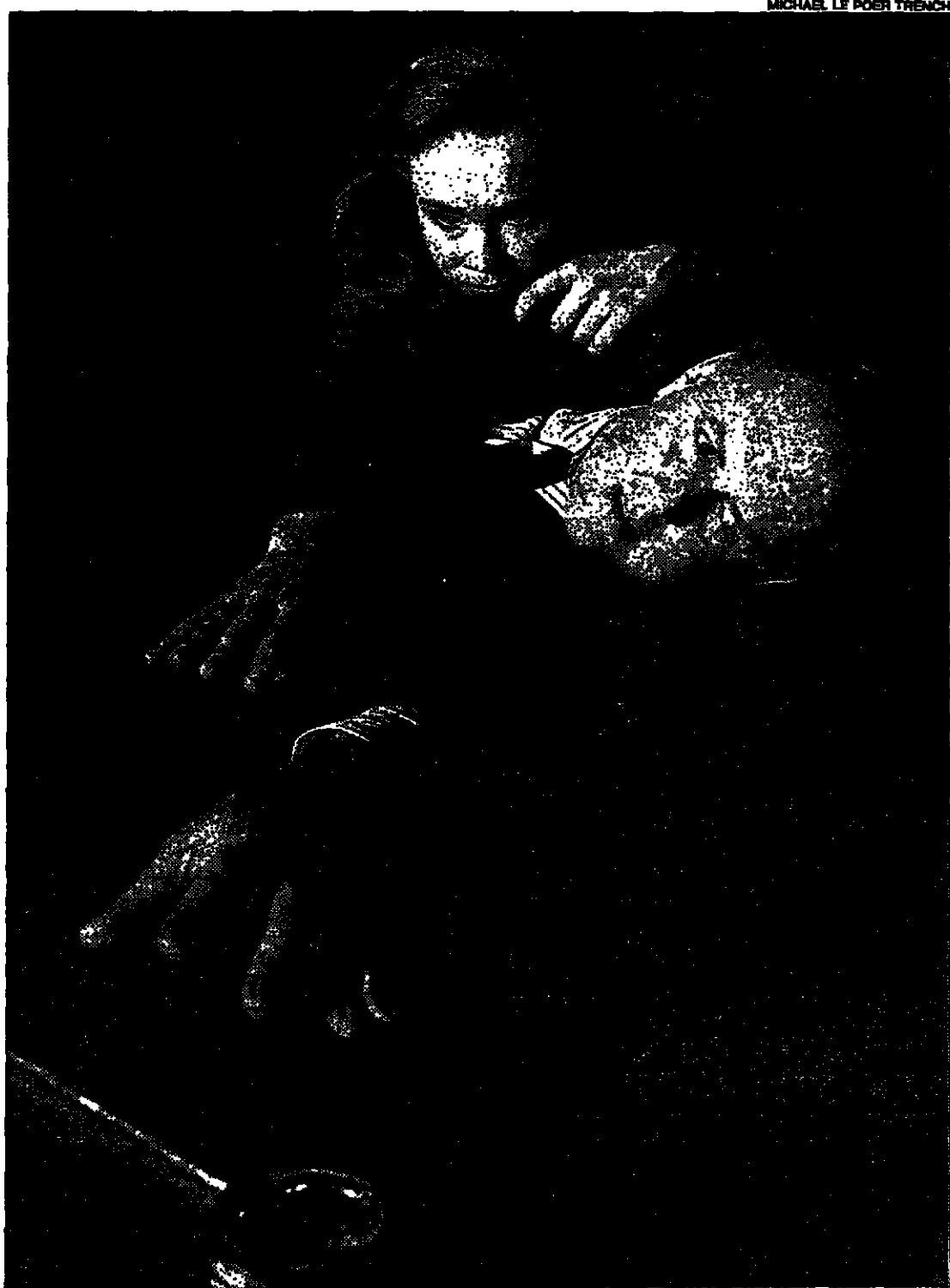
Such contracts are rare in an increasingly cut-throat business. Nowadays, singers are engaged for one production only. If they fail, they are discarded; if they succeed, they are pressed to take too many roles, or too large a role too early.

As Burgess says, "When companies offer roles," they are not necessarily thinking it is the best role for you at this stage of your development. Often, they are looking for the cheapest person who can handle the part. People say at college, 'Don't rush the big roles, take your time.' But, of course, you think: 'I haven't got time! They won't ask me again.' There are famous instances of singers who sacrificed long-term careers on the altar of early fame, and such pressures have multiplied recently, with Eastern European performers flooding the market-place.

"Preparation is vital for a young singer," cautions Legge. "Eva Marton [the distinguished Hungarian soprano] will spend a whole year learning a single part, getting it thoroughly into her sub-conscious. Most singers today are not allowed time for that. No sooner has one performance ended than they fly off to the next. Preparation time is cut down. Jet travel has taken an average of five years off a singer's career."

Morris blames the agents. "The more a singer works, the more an agent earns. Few singers can afford to be as idealistic as Eva Marton. The profession has become a commercial treadmill."

Anecdotal evidence confirms the detrimental effects of the jet age. One English conductor tells of his first encounter with a famous American soprano, in a continental opera house. She flew in on the

Key moment: Sally Burgess and Gwynne Howell in rehearsal for *Duke Bluebeard's Castle*

afternoon of her performance, having spoken to neither conductor nor producer. The conductor attempted to see her before the performance, just to discuss such small matters as tempos and phrasing, but the way to her dressing room was barred by her

security guards. In the interval he tried again, but the diva was surrounded by fans.

They finally met at the curtain call, when the star grasped the conductor warmly by the hand, and purred "Thank you, Roger". Unfortunately, his name was not

Roger. In this mad world, the Coliseum, where casts cling to the old-fashioned notion of thorough rehearsal, seems an oasis of sanity.

● The double-bill of *Duke Bluebeard's Castle* and *Oedipus Rex* has its first performance at the Coliseum (071-336 3161) tonight at 7.30pm.

## THE TIMES

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## EXHIBITION

# False dawns for rising daughters

The May Fourth Movement of 1919 brought calls for democracy and equality to China, promising a new era for Chinese women. This was long overdue after 2,000 years of arranged marriages, child brides, a lack of education for girls, and murder for unwanted female babies. Chinese Graphic Design: Representations of Women 1920-1990, an exhibition at the Design Museum, shows how the image of women's lives, if not always their actual lives, has altered in the intervening decades.

The 70 illustrations—prints from magazine and book covers, advertising and propaganda campaigns—belong to a broader collection uncovered over three years by two designers: the American, Scott Minick, and his Chinese wife, Jiao Ping. Comprising the only record of recent Chinese design, the collection was published last year in *Chinese Design in the Twentieth Century*; the Design Museum's display is its first public exhibition.

Minick chose the theme of women, he says, because he wanted "a subject that would show the progression of Chinese design this century". This "progression" began in the Twenties, in cosmopolitan Shanghai, where Chinese designers sought to integrate new Western influences with China's traditions. Art Deco's geometric ornamentation and bold colours were commonly adapted to produce the exuberant "Shanghai style"; it maintained a Chinese identity while giving a kind of chic "foreign" credibility to advertising and progressive literary covers.

After the 1949 Communist victory and the outbreak of the Korean War a year later, art and politics grew closer—

Images of Chinese women in the 20th century reveal the subtle propaganda behind them, as Tiffany Bown explains



Less equal than others? An illustration from the *Graphic Pictorial*, dated August 1936

unhealthily close, perhaps. Foreign influences were rejected in favour of propagandist socialist realism, based on China's traditions of folklore but featuring a proletarian workforce engaged in rebuilding China.

That artistic stranglehold was broken with Mao's death in 1976. But creative recovery in the free climate was slow. Chinese designers, says Minick, looked to Japan, America and Germany for a role model, but only in the late Eighties did they start to produce strong, individual images by rediscovering styles and techniques from China's past.

The images of women produced before and after the Revolution aimed to show they had been liberated, first in social and economic terms and then as equal partners in the Revolution. But to the modern eye they tell another story. Although footbinding and other traditional abuses

were virtually abolished, women soon fell victim to other forms of exploitation. Their new role, it seems, was to sell—though there was an abrupt change in what they were selling.

In the Twenties, when foreign products spelled glamour, advertisements featuring vulnerable, self-absorbed or even sexy girls sold anything from lipstick to orange squash. From the late Thirties, however, when the posters aimed at selling the party line rather than consumer durables, the image of the poster girls was radically altered. Now they were depicted as paragons of inner courage and physical resilience.

The exhibition's appeal lies not only in the beauty, craftsmanship and dynamism of many of the pictures, or in the stories they tell, but also in their amusement value. Satirical magazines caricature the indiscriminate embracing of Western fashions: Chinese

girls wearing huge sunglasses and high-heels with traditional garments. Elsewhere, though, the humour is unintentional. Look at "Women in Motion", for instance, a group of Thirties pictures of women. By that era, they were seen as independent and strong, and are depicted exploiting new sports opportunities. One shows a petite, Chinese woman—sporting a fashionable permed bob, jodhpurs and knee-length leather boots—with eyes blazing below giant goggles and elbows above her ears in an effort to reach the handlebars of a massive motorbike.

Today, Chinese themselves laugh at the crude post-1949 propagandist art, urging women to "Share the Labour and Share the Fruit" or "Learn from Lei Feng" (a woman referred to as the revolution's "rustless screw", still paraded by the present leadership to encourage loyalty and hard work).

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# Frock tactics, surreal overkill

**Ennio Marchetto**  
**Purcell Room**

THIS is a one-man show in which a large number of women are cheerfully spoofed. Madonna and Piaf, Dusty Springfield and Snow White, Marilyn Monroe and a full quota of Supremes: the Italian performer Ennio Marchetto has the chutzpah to mimic almost any songbird who comes warbling in from the record-player ofstage. The London International Mime Festival may not be providing many solemn subtleties for the cognoscenti this year, but it is certainly offering the ordinary punter plenty of shameless fun.

Marchetto is actually a chunky man with cropped hair and a broad, fleshy face that would not look particularly amiss in a wrestling ring. That becomes plain at the curtain-call, when he sheds his perms and his frocks and rubs round the stage bowing so earnestly and deeply that I for one feared he would dent his head on the floorboards. But the contrast between male bulk and female mannerisms has all along been a prime source of fun. The hair on his chest is never more visible than when some love-goddess is chunkily teetering her way through her flimsy repertoire.

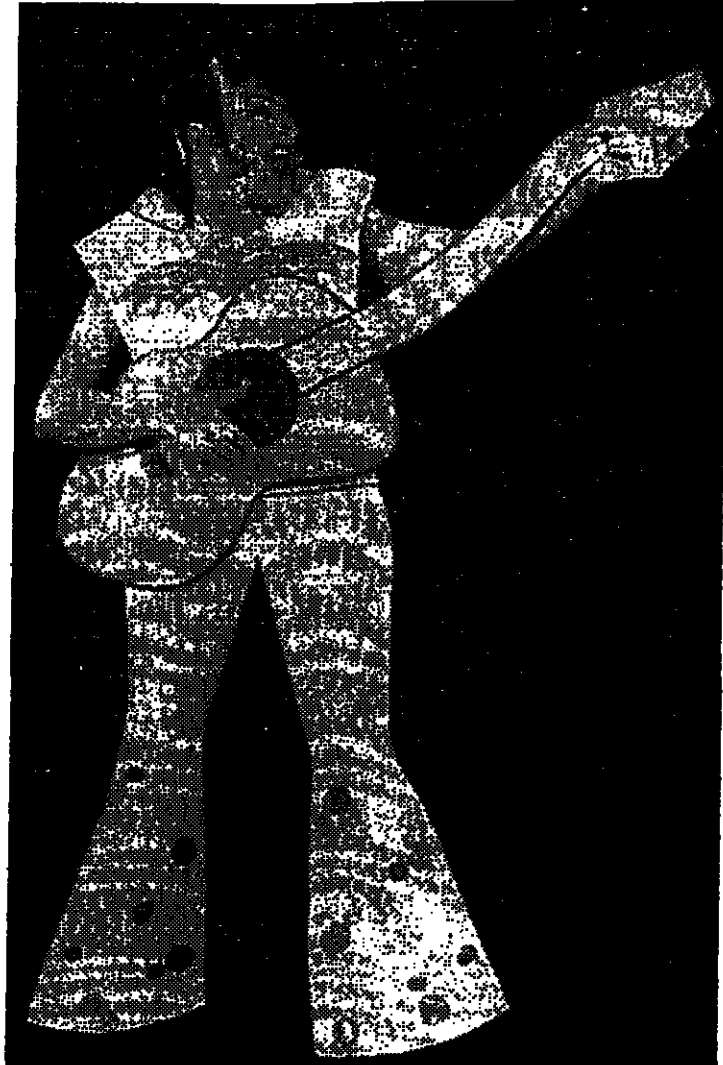
That is not unusual in itself. What distinguishes Marchetto from some Greenwich Village drag queen doing his Judy Garland imitation is a sort of surreal

overkill. Throughout the show he relies on paper dresses and paper wigs, some tucked behind others and only revealed as a song progresses or one singer is replaced by another. A pile of blonde hair may become a mauve cascade, a giant haystack, or a flaming maple tree. A sophisticated Broadway chanteuse may suddenly reappear as Carmen in an unsuitable pink dress, looking like a huge spotted salmon as she undulates from side to side and trills extravagantly of 'l'amour'.

Not all the objects of Marchetto's mischief are female and not all his females are singers. Presley materialises in an all-silver decal, with a large E embossed over his pelvis. Pavarotti waddles onstage, opening a bloated penguin-suit to reveal a built-in table complete with wine and spaghetti. The Queen puts in an appearance, and so does the Mona Lisa, ogling, mugging and wiggling her tongue as someone belts out, "She's got love, my baby, she's got it". There is a lot of Marchetto's face, and he does a lot with it.

But women singers are clearly his speciality and, judging by the first-night audience's enthusiasm, a rather surprising woman is his *chef-d'oeuvre*: not Monroe, not Grace Jones, but Piaf, who trundles slowly forward like a decrepit bag lady and distractedly wrestles with her own head as she insists, rather implausibly under the circumstances, that she regrets nothing. The Purcell Room can have seen nothing quite like it.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE



Chunky chutzpah: Ennio Marchetto mimicking Elvis Presley

## The Emperor Jones

Offstage Downstairs,  
Chalk Farm

THIS revival modestly launches a company with deep-sea ambitions. Anglo-American Theatre hopes eventually to ship productions across the Atlantic. But now it is content to signal its artistic intentions by furnishing a tiny basement in Chalk Farm with a pretty well-chosen play.

For one thing, Eugene O'Neill's protagonist is an American with (though here his accent is Irish) a British sidekick. For another, it is among the most daring of his early works, a play that gets its form from Europe, particularly from the German expressionists, and its content from the rural slums of Mississippi. Back in 1920, O'Neill was outraged by his nation's racial prejudice, and sought to show the nightmares endured by all blacks through the haunted psyche of one.

The play is, however, hard to bring to life in a cramped cellar on a budget of tuppence. That does not matter at the start, when we meet Brutus Jones, the convict who has become emperor of a backward island. It is enough to put actor Mel Taylor into Ruritanian red and gold, and ask him to parade beside a throne with masks carved into its woodwork.

But Taylor must spend most of the evening escaping from his unruly subjects, who dimly sense that the little they own has

vanished into Jones's bank account. That takes him further and further into a forest that O'Neill describes in terms of gigantic tree-trunks, sinister moonbeams drifting through canopies of leaves, and "dense low walls of underbrush". There he confronts hallucinations that vary from "little formless fears with glittering eyes" to a vicious prison guard, a slaver, and sinister figures from the primal bush.

O'Neill was admirably notorious for his pernickety stage directions. But Stuart Wood, who directs, is hard put to turn a flimsy raffia platform and some perspex hangings into either a good forest or a good forest of the mind. The occasional glimpse of men in weird garb does not help greatly. A screeching witchdoctor, four feet long, just about evokes Jones's African ancestry. A white giant dressed as a black devil is neither very frightening nor remotely recognisable as a slave auctioneer.

Given these physical limitations, much depends on Taylor's acting. He must, so to speak, substitute for the set. He is an imposing figure, a commanding presence, and he progresses effectively enough from complicity to unfeeling to dismay. But he does not fully know how to wail and sweat, let alone howl, flail, crumple and exude a sense of horror. He has made a start, but has yet to finish the creative job. The same could be said of Anglo-American Theatre itself.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

## Le nozze di Figaro

Festival Hall

AN OPERA from the very heart of the repertoire hardly stands in need of a concert-hall outing—certainly not when it is a Mozart opera and the year is 1991. But here there was a justification. Like a planetary conjunction, the occasion brought together singers untried to encounter each other for more than a moment in their celestial careers: Margaret Price as the Countess, Anne Sofie von Otter as Cherubino, Ferruccio Furlanetto as Figaro. And, as the sun and centre of it all, there was Sir Georg Solti, who also is rarely to be found in the theatre these days outside Salzburg.

Besides, this was not really a concert performance, nor is a performance of *Figaro* without movement quite imaginable: the music has action and reaction written into it. So the essential props were there—a ribbon, damaged and undamaged flowers, a letter, a contract—and the singers had the freedom of a platform behind the orchestra. This perhaps encouraged stock responses and gestures. It also took everybody a while to settle in, suggesting that rehearsal time had been limited: at first it seemed that only the caricature element, vividly provided by Kim Begley's Basilio, would come to dramatic life. Price's Countess received the greatest ovations, and indeed her

combination of sure placing and rich tone was extraordinary: nobody else can sound at once like a trumpet for bold precision and like a low-register clarinet for sensuous fullness. Given, too, her superb phrasing, the character came over strongly as a purely musical presence: the only centred being in the household. Also remarkable was Von Otter's Cherubino, especially in a "Non so più" impelled by passionate plights and overflowing with ardour.

The lively Susanna was Adelina Scarabelli: an agile voice of great presence and a yielding charm—used with a wit it would have been good to hear in a more suitable acoustic. Opposite her, Furlanetto offered a warmly cloaked tone that nicely conveyed Figaro's irony, which could open out to either power or generosity. William Stone as the Count perhaps suffered most from the ungrateful space, though his aria came across forcibly and musically. Kurt Rydl provided a thoroughly enjoyable, dark but benign Bartolo, and Della Jones a radiant, queenly Marcelina, except in the coloratura of her aria. There was also a quite delightful and moving Barbarina from Patricia Rozario, whose cavatina was far more than an interlude, and whose musical value made the character register in a way that can rarely be achieved in the theatre.

To get close to Solti's conducting, and to the fine enthusiasm of the Chamber Orchestra of Europe was also a pleasure.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

## Philharmonia/Bychkov

Festival Hall

ALTHOUGH the central core of players stayed the same, the Philharmonia could almost have been three different orchestras under the conducting of Semyon Bychkov: one for each work in his programme. The playing was courteous, not to say *galant*, in support of the Labèque sisters, Katia and Marielle, who tempered their customary keyboard steel and sparks for an almost decorous

account of Mozart's Two-Piano Concerto, K365.

The pianists can be credited this time with some sensitivity to phrase and feeling. The threat of keyboard claws waiting to be unleashed was still there in forte passages, but competitive playing between the two was mostly combined to the cadenzas, and in the central Andante, there was actually some poetic interplay with the pair of orchestral oboes before an expressive finish.

Between the two symphonies that began and ended the concert, the conductor completely re-created the orchestral strings. For Haydn's "Trauer" Symphony (No

44) he set the cellos next to the first violins, and had the second violins on the other side of him, thereby increasing the degree of linear tension and clarity of part-writing among the reduced orchestral numbers for the work's "storm and stress" character.

At full strength for Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony, both first and second violins were kept close together as a tight ensemble, although a lack of balance and perspective in the conductor's mostly hectic performance, lurching from one episode to another in the outer movements, brought about a curiously two-dimensional impression. Instrumental

colours were laid side by side, as it were, instead of being integrated in some purposeful design.

For the nostalgic melancholy of the second movement, a lack of flexibility in phrasing meant that its evocative character remained merely prosaic. The strings gave a virtuoso response to the massed *pizzicato ostinato* demands of the Scherzo (including a brilliant running repair to a snapped string by one first violinist), but so much orchestral panache in the finale needed less heat and more nourishment to make organic sense of it.

NOEL GOODWIN

## NEW RELEASES

**BEAUTIFUL DREAMERS (15):** Docile heart-warmer about an asylum doctor spreading love and compassion with the help of his wife (Rita Tonn). Director, John Kent Harrison. Cannon Shearwater Avenue (071-636 8881).

**THE FOCK (15):** Sufficiently static tale of emotional misery in Venice. Escaped from the *La Dolce Vita* team. With Daria Faccini, director, Christine Ezzard. Cannon West End (071-439 4805).

**MIRACLE MILE (15):** Two shy lovers and their romance interrupted by an impending nuclear attack. Bright, stylish drama from promising director Steve Jarratt. Anthony Edwards, Marcia Gay Harden. Cannon Shearwater Avenue (071-636 8881).

**NARROW MARGIN (15):** Cat-and-mouse games on a train, with a disturbed detective (Harrison Ford) and a cunning criminal (Anthony Edwards). Director, John Dahl. Cannon Shearwater Avenue (071-636 8881).

**THE ROCKY HORROR (15):** Sleazy potboiler from director-actor Clint Eastwood, a tough LA detective never partnered with a rich and lovely (Christine Ezzard). Director, Peter Faiman. Cannon Shearwater Avenue (071-636 8881).

**THE UNDISCOVERED COUNTRY (15):** Engaging, delectable comedy of small-town manners from two directors (Hal Hartley, Robert Bork). Cannon Shearwater Avenue (071-636 8881).

**AIR AMERICA (15):** Mel Gibson and Robert Downey Jr. in a revenge plot mixed in an offbeat of the Vietnam war. Louis L'Amour, director. Cannon Shearwater Avenue (071-636 8881).

**ARACHNOPHOBIA (15):** Deadly spiders rampage through a cozy Californian community. Enjoyable thriller filled with humor and suspense. Director, Mick Garris. Cannon Shearwater Avenue (071-636 8881).

**BLUE STEEL (15):** Tough, blood-spattered police action with a feminist slant from director Kathryn Bigelow. Cannon Shearwater Avenue (071-636 8881).

**ALL THINGS NICE (15):** An accomplished cast led by Joanna Roth's first wife, with a compelling sexual and self-discovery story. Director, Joanna Roth. Cannon Shearwater Avenue (071-636 8881).

**CHILDREN OF EDEN (15):** Musical musical from director, John Card. Cannon Shearwater Avenue (071-636 8881).

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## CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and elsewhere indicated with the symbol (E) on release across the country.

**THE COMFORT OF STRANGERS (18):** Rupert Everett and Natasha Richardson mooring Edward and Victoria, taking prey to the warped (Christophel Walker). Lyrical psychological drama. Cannon Shearwater Avenue (071-636 8881).

**CYRANO DE BERGERAC (15):** Gerard Depardieu masterful as the loveless, long-nosed Cyrano, who transforms Roxane's play into magnificent, swashbuckling cinema. Cannon Shearwater Avenue (071-636 8881).

**THE GARDEN (15):** The Passion according to Derek Jarman—a powerful, elegant tapestry of scenes and images on death, religion and gay sex. Cannon Shearwater Avenue (071-636 8881).

**GHOST (15):** Jerry Zucker's supernatural thriller. Bizarre, incoherent, but absolutely while it lasts. Cannon Shearwater Avenue (071-636 8881).

**HENRY AND JUNE (18):** Annette Bening's passionate affair with Henry Miller, set in a lush, lush, lush. Cannon Shearwater Avenue (071-636 8881).

**HIDDEN AGENDA (15):** Ken Loach and Jim Allen's story of a Stalker-His enquiry into the Usher conspiracy. Cannon Shearwater Avenue (071-636 8881).

**HOME ALONE (PG):** Puckled left left alone as Christmas warms of burning burglars. Broad, machine-gunned American family fun from writer-director John Hughes. Cannon Shearwater Avenue (071-636 8881).

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New York's debutants and proper one Christmas holiday. With dialogue, engaging young actors, elegant direction. Cannon Shearwater Avenue (071-636 8881).

**THE MUSIC TEACHER (15):** Prodigious, funny assault on Germany's Nazi past, with Lutz Riedel as the guy uncovering her home town's shady history. Cannon Shearwater Avenue (071-636 8881).

**THE NASTY GIRL (PG):** Prodigious, funny assault on Germany's Nazi past, with Lutz Riedel as the guy uncovering her home town's shady history. Cannon Shearwater Avenue (071-636 8881).

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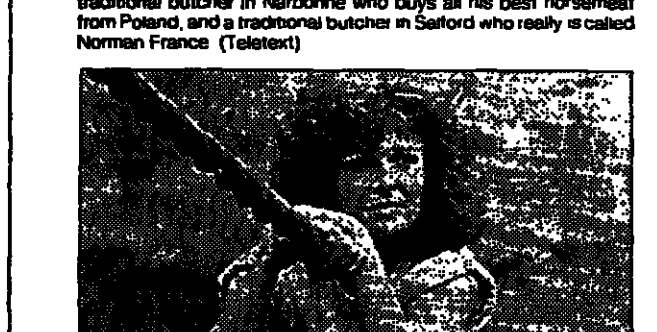
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**THE NASTY GIRL**



- NE Because of the Gulf war programmes and times are subject to change
- 6.00 Channel 4 Daily The latest news from the Gulf
- 9.25 Schools
- 12.00 Channel 4 News headlines
- 12.05 The Parliament Programme
- 12.30 Business Daily Financial and business news service
- 1.00 Newsline Street Educational fun for pre-schoolchildren
- 2.00 Film: A Year in the Sun (1991, b/w) Lovely second world war drama in which an American pilot (Tyronne Power), desperate to impress his chorus-girl girlfriend (Beryl Grable) joins the RAF only to be sent to Dunkirk. Directed by Henry King
- 3.50 Un Point C'Est Tout. Animated film about the wonders of the weather
- 4.00 Great British Isles Leslie Thomas travels to Caldey an island off the Welsh coast owned by Cistercian monks (r)
- 4.30 Countdown with Richard Whitley
- 5.00 The Adventures of Tintin. Episode three of *The Treasure of the Emerald City* (r)
- 5.05 The Oprah Winfrey Show The fearless Winfrey puts herself in the spotlight in this edition, revealing how she feels about her weight and how this very personal topic has become public property
- 6.00 The Wonder Years. Fred Savage stars in this amusing portrayal of teenage life in Sedes suburban America (r)
- 6.30 Tonight with Jimmy Fallon Tonight's guests include actress Joanna Lumley and the Cure
- 7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext)
- 7.15 Party Political Comment from a Conservative party politician Followed by Weather
- 8.00 Brookside. A slice of Liverpool with the inhabitants of Brookside Close
- 8.30 Despatches. The inside story of how the Bush administration took the decisions that led to the start of the Gulf conflict
- 9.15 Short and Curries. One Man's Meat. Offbeat drama about a young man (Sebastian Chae) caught between two very different cultures. Will his passion for hamburgers provide the solution to his dilemma? (Teletext)
- 9.30 Masters of Taste. A Tale of Two Cities.  
● CHOICE In Janice Robinson's comparative study of the gastronomic delights in twinned Narbonne (Dept of Aube) and Salford (Lancs), the revelation that there are 13 eatmes for Narbonne in the *Mehrlein Guide* against one for Salford comes as no surprise if would, though there have been nice to know if the inevitable pub that includes a slab of mappet. Lancashire cheese the slice a doortest. £2.20-for all meals menu, was the solitary Salford eating place that found its way into *Mehrlein*. Predictably the two French exchange students visiting Salford say that what they miss most is their daily bread whereas with their British counterparts, it's the daily cuppas. Unpredictably there is a



**Outward Bound in the Lake District: Julie Walters (10.00pm)**

**10.00 Film: She'll Be Wearing Pink Pyjamas (1955)**  
**● CHOICE** Whether or not it's true that Eys Hardy who scripted this comedy was influenced by Walter Hill's *Southern Comfort* made three years earlier and seen on BBC2 last week it is not a barren exercise to look for what the two films have in common. Instead of *Southern Comfort*'s group of disorientated American National Guardsmen trying to find a way out of the rhinoceros lair, here's swampland, where *Outward Bound* is comedy, has a bunch of Outward Bound women, abandoned by their instructors in a hostile Lake District, and having to work out their own salvation. And there the comparison ends. There were no encounters of the sexual kind in *Southern Comfort*, neither was there a morale booster like *Pink Pyjamas*'s Julie Walters, who, it must be said has a considerable tonic effect on the film itself, when things begin to flag.

**11.45 Channel 4 News – Midnight Special** Bulletins and analysis of the situation in the Gulf. Ends at 2.00am

2200 Search for Tomorrow 11:00 The Edge of Night 11:30  
1200 To Love Again 3:55 Ten Tons Deep: 4:05  
WWF® in Cincinnati 4:35 Great American  
Rodeo Showdown 8:00 The Salt Water Show  
Shopping Channel 8:00 JSTV 10:00 The Salt  
Water Shopping Channel 12:00 Satellite  
Junkies

**THE MOVIE CHANNEL**

• Via the Marco Polo satellite.  
1.35PM The Movie Show  
2.55 Two Hots Together (1987): A married  
couple (Lynch) and cowboy actor (Richard  
Widmark) are forced to rescue prisoners  
captured by the Comanches.  
4.05 Dr. Strangelove (1964): Stanley  
Kubrick's black comedy about a pre-  
emptive nuclear strike on the Soviet Union  
from the USSR in three different roles.  
6.00 Sate (1988): A young Puerto Rican  
musician (Sisley Rose) tries for the big  
time in L.A. in this hepatic version of Dirty  
Harry.  
8:10 Brads on the Move (1989): A  
Polar Expresser takes the family home.  
Starring Robert Redford

16:00 The Hunting of Sarah Hurst: An  
huntsman is driven to the brink of insanity by  
appearances of her dead mother's Starring  
Robert Redford  
17:45 Gosh (1978): In this sequel to White  
Lightning, moonstruck Dr. Reynolds is  
blackmailed into finding supernatural evi-  
dence against corrupt politicians.  
1:50PM L.A. Bounty (1989): When a political  
candidate is kidnapped by drug baron  
Wings Hauer, tourist hunter Giza Dancer  
springs into violent action. Ends at 3:30

**THE SPORTS CHANNEL**

• Via the Marco Polo satellite.  
1.30PM Sports Channel  
2.00 Superbowl 5:00 Hypercoloring  
6:00 American Wrestling 7:00 World War  
2:00 News 8:00 American Wrestling  
10:00 World Masters Show 11:30 Racing  
Today 12:00 Australian Open Tennis

**THE POWER STATION**



• Via the Marco Polo satellite.  
7.00PM Twenty-one hours of rock and pop

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● LAW 36  
● SPORT 36-40

# BUSINESS

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 23 1991

Business Editor  
John Bell

## Fed rules out big rate cuts to ease recession

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

ALAN Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, has conceded that America is in recession, but has ruled out any robust interest rate cuts to revive activity.

In testimony to Congress, he said he already saw signs of recovery and expressed confidence that the extra cost of financing the Gulf conflict would not pose a serious inflationary threat.

On monetary easing, he said a policy that was too stimulative had to be avoided, as by historical standards the amount of slack in the economy was not great. "An overly aggressive monetary policy could end up being counterproductive."

Gulf developments, and their impact on oil prices, had been a key factor affecting the

American downturn, with increased energy costs hitting household and business spending, he said.

Mr Greenspan's ruling out of savage cuts in interest rates followed Monday's communiqué from the Group of Seven meeting of central bankers and finance ministers which said priority would be given to maintaining stability in financial markets in the event of turbulence arising from the Gulf war.

A fall in Fed funds last Friday fuelled speculation that the Fed had eased policy in response to mounting evidence of serious recession in America. The G7 communiqué also referred to creating conditions that favoured lower interest rates.

Mr Greenspan said: "All indications are that business activity declined appreciably

in the fourth quarter of 1990. The contraction apparently continued in December." He underlined that the uncertainty generated by the Gulf situation wrought much wider damage on economic confidence than that exerted through higher oil prices.

Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, said meanwhile the cost of the Gulf war was potentially huge and could limit his scope for tax concessions in the Budget.

He said he had held informal discussions with the Germans and Japanese about increasing their financial support for the allied war effort.

He said the cost before hostilities began was £1 billion, but "since then it is very difficult to estimate the cost."

Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, last night renewed his pledge to keep the pound squarely within its fluctuation bands in the exchange-rate mechanism of the European Monetary System. He told German businessmen in Hamburg that Britain was "absolutely determined" to reinforce its counter-inflation policy by adherence to ERM rules.

He underlined that Britain was prepared to accept some loss in output, if that led to a lasting reduction in inflation. He said he did not expect a deep or lengthy retrenchment in the world economy, despite recessions in Britain and North America, although the suspension last week of talks on freer world trade had been a serious setback.

Mr Leigh-Pemberton detected "widespread concern" that Germany may raise interest rates rather than exercise fiscal restraint to rein in domestic demand.

Higher oil prices were the main factor behind a sharp narrowing in Japan's trade surplus last year. The customs-cleared surplus fell to \$52.4 billion, a 18.5 per cent drop,

Stock markets, page 26

## Netherlands ignores energy agency ruling

By MARTIN BARROW AND PHILIP PANGALOS

THE International Energy Agency is under pressure to reverse its decision ordering members to draw crude from strategic stocks.

The IEA's move was made in an effort to restore stability in world oil markets. However, the Netherlands believes there is no longer a need for the additional reserves because the world is now awash with oil.

Holland is refusing to release any oil and forecasts that the IEA will postpone its emergency plan, designed to restrain price movements on the outbreak of war, at its meeting in Paris on Monday.

Anticipating a sharp rise in the cost of crude, the IEA ordered the release of 2.5 million barrels per day from February 1. Oil prices, however, slipped \$10 a barrel on the first day of fighting. But the

price continued to recover yesterday. The benchmark March Brent crude rose \$1.53 to \$20.50 a barrel in London while American energy futures were up \$1.80 at \$23.10.

On foreign exchanges, the pound was weaker, closing down one cent at \$1.9460 in London and losing almost half a pence against the mark at DM2.9112. Its trade-weighted index was 94.1, against 94.2.

Share prices remained dull. Sentiment was not helped by an initial 20-point fall on Wall Street. The FT-SE 100 index staged a gradual recovery from an early 12-point drop, to close 2.4 lower at 2,081.6. Volume only managed to reach 363.8 million. Gold, meanwhile, gained \$1.75 to close at \$380.75 an ounce in London after active trading.

Stock markets, page 26



Defying the recession: George Pope (left) and Ian Homersham, joint chairmen

## John D Wood bucks trend

JOHN D Wood, the west London chain of estate agents, bucked the recession in the housing market with a pre-tax profit of £201,000, a decline of 7 per cent, in the six months to end-October. Turnover grew

10 per cent to £2.71 million during the period as the company increased market share. The group's lettings business grew 27 per cent. The company is to maintain its interim dividend at 1.5p.

George Pope, joint chairman, said the figures were remarkable "during a perfectly beastly time to be in the business".

Tempus, page 25

## Saatchi refinancing hangs in the balance

By NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE future of Saatchi & Saatchi hangs in the balance as directors from St James's Place Capital, Lord Rothschild's investment group, meet the advertising agency's advisers to discuss the company's refinancing plans.

Clive Gibson, a director of St James's, met corporate financiers from SG Warburg, the merchant bank that has masterminded the refinancing. Sources close to the company described the meeting as preliminary, to allow Warburg to explain its proposals. St James's will now discuss the terms privately before making any counter-proposals.

St James's and its funds own almost a fifth of Saatchi's Euro-preference share issue, and effectively hold the power to veto the entire scheme.

The investment company is unhappy with Saatchi's refinancing, which offers 50 per cent of the equity in the reconstructed group to the Euro-preference holders, and the terms of a £20 million loan facility from Donaldson Lufkin Jenrette, Saatchi's American adviser.

Any disputes over the refinancing must be settled before the middle of next month.

St James's has decided to take its complaints to Warburg on its own, but other large Euro-preference holders are opposed to the terms, including several American investors. Saatchi needs to win approval for the refinancing from two-thirds of the preference holders as well as 75 per cent of the ordinary shareholders.

### ADT warning

Shares in ADT, the security car auctions and investment group headed by Michael Ashcroft, plunged a further 12p to 75p, against a 1990 high of 212p, after the company gave warning ahead of the scheduled report in March, that profits for 1990 would be well below City forecasts and about 10 per cent down on the £290 million reported for 1989.

Tempus, page 25

### Microgen ahead

Microgen Holdings, the management information systems group, is lifting its final dividend to 4.8p (4.5p), making 7p (6.7p) after reporting pre-tax profits of £8.5 million (£7.2 million) for the year ended October 31.

Tempus, page 25

## Generator sale incentives aim to discourage quick profits

By MARTIN WALLER

THE government and its advisers have put the emphasis firmly on shareholder loyalty as opposed to quick profits in announcing the incentives on offer to investors in PowerGen and National Power, the two generating companies.

Shareholders who register by the relevant date will be given a choice of an 8 per cent discount or a one-for-ten share bonus if they hold the shares long enough.

The minimum investment in the companies is set at around £525, with a first payment of at least £300.

The incentives package is more sober than that used to sell the 12 electricity distributors, and the energy department is clearly concerned to avoid the scramble for shares that left most applicants for the distributors disappointed.

The discount is of about £8 for every £100 invested in the two companies, being sold together as a bundle of shares that will trade separately only on the first day of dealings, up to a maximum discount of £280.

The discount will only be available off the second instalment due in February 1992, so stags who sell out immediately will see no benefit.

The share bonus is also aimed at the long-term investor and is triggered only if the shares are held until March 31, 1994. Again, there is a maximum available, of shares with a total value of about £700.

The incentives are available only to investors who register with the Electricity Share Information Office by the middle of next month that, investors can buy shares in the usual way, will not be eligible for the discount or the bonus.

Those who had already registered for the distributors last year are automatically included in the second phase of the privatisation of the electricity industry and do not have to register again.

The government clearly intends to push ahead with the sale of the generators, the Gulf war notwithstanding. But many observers believe that the sale may have to be cancelled if there is no quick

victory in the Gulf. The government has until impact day on February 22 to pull the sale, after which, if the issue is underwritten, the decision not to go ahead passes to the City institutions under the force majeure clause that will be included in the underwriting agreement.

That date is the last of the possible "trigger points" at which the decision not to proceed could be made.

Before that comes publication for the pathfinder prospectus, on February 1.

□ The generators' ambitions to expand their markets at the expense of the distributors suffered a setback with a ruling from Professor Stephen Littlechild, director general of electricity supply and the official watchdog for the restructured power industry.

National Power and Power Gen will not be allowed to raise the limits already set on direct sales to the distributors' customers, he has decided. These limits were set at 15 per cent for all 12 distributors, although they were subsequently raised to 20 or 25 per cent for four of them.

Comment, page 25

## Ratners in £187m write-off

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

RATNERS has posted a circular to shareholders containing details of the group's proposal to write off £187 million of goodwill against the company's share premium account of £355 million. The goodwill arises from the acquisition in October of Kay Jewelers in America.

The circular also contains a working capital statement and statement of indebtedness that shows Ratners' gearing ratio to be about 42 per cent. The reduction of the company's share premium account is subject to shareholder approval. An extraordinary meeting is scheduled for February 21. The shares fell 3p to 152p.

### THE ROUND

US dollar 1.9485 (-0.0045)  
German mark 2.9121 (-0.0049)  
Exchange index 94.1 (-0.2)

### STOCK MARKETS

FT 30 Share 1630.6 (-8.1)  
FT-SE 100 2081.6 (-2.4)  
New York Dow Jones 2621.04 (-8.17)  
Tokyo Nikkei Avege 23263.65 (-98.54)  
Closing Prices ... Page 29

### INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 14%  
3-month interbank 14 1/8%  
3-month export bill 13 1/8-13 1/4%  
US Prime Rate 9 1/4%  
Federal Funds 6%  
3-month Treasury Bill 6.08-6.07%  
30-year bonds 105 1/8-105 1/4%

### CURRENCY

London: New York  
£ \$1 9485  
£ DM2.9121  
£ Sfr 2.4493  
£ FF 9.8374  
£ Yen 255.52  
£ Index 94.1  
ECU 10 703.238  
£ ECU 42.1991  
SDR 1.76  
SDR/£ 1.76

### GOLD

London: Fixing  
AM \$381.25 pm \$381.00  
close \$380.40-380.90 (\$195.50)  
196.00)  
New York: 180  
Comex \$380.65-381.15

### NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Feb) ... \$20.80 oil (\$19.10)  
\* Denotes latest trading price

### COURT RATES

	Bank	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	1.9485	2.9121	94.1
Austria Sfr	2.4493	9.8374	255.52
Belgium F	2.4493	9.8374	255.52
Canada C	2.4493	9.8374	255.52
Denmark Kr	2.4493	9.8374	255.52
France F	2.4493	9.8374	255.52
Germany DM	2.9121	94.1	105.1
Italy Lira	2.4493	9.8374	255.52
Japan Yen	255.52	9.8374	255.52
Netherlands Gld	2.4493	9.8374	255.52
Norway Kr	2.4493	9.8374	255.52
Portugal Esc	2.4493	9.8374	255.52
Spain Ptas	2.4493	9.8374	255.52
Sweden Kr	2.4493	9.8374	255.52
Switzerland F	2.4493	9.8374	255.52
Turkey Lira	2.4493	9.8374	255.52
USA \$	1.9485	2.9121	94.1
Yugoslavia Dnr	2.4493	9.8374	255.52

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Retail Price Index: 130.0 (November)

## Investment in unit trusts falls 90%

By LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

UNIT trusts had their worst year for a decade when net new investment last year fell almost 90 per cent to £391.6 million.

During 1990, the industry sold unit trusts worth £8.6 billion but investors cashed in funds worth £8.22 billion. This compared with sales of £10.6 billion in 1989 and repurchases of £6.7 billion.

Philip Warland, director general of the Unit Trust Association, said the fall was due largely to insurance companies making large withdrawals from unit trusts because the tax rules changed on such investments for life companies.

Figures for the first half of last year showed that insurance companies withdrew £50 million more than they invested. Mr Warland said insurance companies accounted for £500 million of the £590

million outflow recorded during the third quarter. During the final quarter of the year, net new investment was £423.7 million. The total was made up of £183.7 million in December, £51 million in November and £189 million in October. The number of unitholder accounts fell from 4.9 million to 4.63 million during the year.

Personal equity plans accounted for £539 million of unit trust sales and the number of unit trust Peps rose to 576,000. The industry wants the limit for unit trust plans doubled from £3,000 to £6,000 in the Budget.

Mr Warland said he was optimistic about investment prospects for 1991 if the Gulf war was resolved quickly. "I suspect that direct investment in unit trusts is set to rise during the year ahead."

### Ex-Citibank executive denies making false claims

## Broker 'deceived' on Ferranti

By OUR CITY STAFF

A FORMER Citibank executive deceived Smith New Court, the stockbroker, into buying more than 28 million shares in Ferranti International, the defuncted electronics and defence group, it was alleged at Southwark Crown Court yesterday.

Christopher Roberts was under pressure to get rid of the shares, which were being held as security for a £23 million loan taken out by James Guerin, the American businessman, the court was told. At the time, Mr Roberts was head of onshore banking for the Private Banking Group, a subsidiary of Citibank.

Peter Clarke, prosecuting, said Mr Roberts, aged 41, induced SNC to buy the shares by falsely claiming he had received two offers for them. One was allegedly from Aeritalia of Italy.

Mr Roberts has denied two charges of making false and

misleading statements on July 21, 1989. Mr Clarke told the jury it was acting as parliament's watchdogs on City malpractice and would have to decide whether Mr Roberts infringed the Financial Services Act 1986 by acting improperly and in a misleading way.

He said 32 million Ferranti shares were given to Mr Guerin after International Signal & Control, his American company, merged with Ferranti in 1987.

It was alleged that at the time SNC inflated its balance sheet so that the merger would be more attractive. But Mr Clarke emphasised it was not alleged that the defendant was "in cahoots" with Mr Guerin.

Seven weeks after SNC bought the shares, the allegations surfaced in America and Ferranti's shares crashed, causing them to be suspended. The Ferranti shares given to

Mr Guerin had been put into the keeping of Parent Industries, his asset-management firm, and were used as security against a £23 million loan from Citibank.

The agreement provided for blocks of the shares to be sold in the event of the share price falling and reaching pre-determined "trigger" prices.

Mr Clarke said that by June 1989, the loan agreement had clearly "run into serious difficulties".

None of the pre-arranged interest payments of £2.5 million was made and initially Citibank sold a total of 4 million of the 32 million shares over a two-week period.

At the same time, he said, Parent was also under pressure to raise cash to be paid into an American court as a deposit in a civil action and Mr Roberts knew this. The trial continues.

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Monday 25th February LONDON  
Tuesday 26th February LONDON  
Wednesday 27th February LONDON

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# British Steel steps up cost-cutting after orders fall



Sir Robert: exports drive

By ROSS TIEMAN  
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH Steel is increasing its crackdown on costs after a sharp slump in orders for steel strip.

A British Steel spokesman revealed yesterday that orders during the first quarter were 13 per cent lower than for the same period a year ago.

The decline in demand for strip, which accounts for almost half of British Steel's output, compounds worries that the impact of recession on manufacturing is worsening rapidly.

The automotive industry, one of the key users of steel strip, is still growing strongly on the back of imports. Other steel strip markets, such as in white goods and construc-

tion, must, therefore, must be fast contracting.

During the 1990 calendar year, total British steel output fell by 4.8 per cent to 17.85 million tonnes. That was six per cent below 1988, which was the peak year of the past decade.

Weakening sales have led Sir Robert Scholey, British Steel's chairman, to announce a drive to increase exports and cut costs. As many as 2,000 jobs are expected to be shed among managerial and administrative staff.

The British Steel spokesman said: "If the recession gets deeper, we will just carry on cutting."

Last week, British Steel told unions at its Ravenscraig strip mill in Scotland that one of the two blast furnaces was to be banked up from

February 9 until the end of March. That is an interim measure designed to halt production, but keep the furnace available should demand improve.

As demand declines, British Steel is under growing pressure to reduce output at Ravenscraig, its highest cost plant. Instead, production is being concentrated at its lowest cost facilities, in South Wales.

The spokesman added: "We are not taking it lying down. We have strong management and we are preferentially loading what business we get on to our lowest cost plants."

"We are also increasing export sales, and although the UK market is tightening we hope to mitigate this through increased exports."

Ravenscraig has also been hit by the downturn. Liquid steel production there is down from 38,000 tonnes a week to 23,000 tonnes. The company said: "Slab continues to be produced at Ravenscraig for export, and to be rolled in South Wales, but at a reduced rate."

The battle to increase exports is an exceptionally tough one. Although British Steel is the lowest cost producer in Europe, and also the most profitable, many of its rivals receive some form of state aid.

Declining demand in America has weakened British Steel's export market there. The conditions there have caused competitors to refocus their attention on exports to Europe, where opportunities are only marginally better.

## IMI closes plant with loss of 380 jobs

By ROSS TIEMAN  
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

IMI is to close its rolled metals plant in Birmingham with the loss of 380 jobs. The company blamed overcapacity in Europe which, it said, made the heavy investment needed to stay competitive uneconomic.

IMI said the downturn was compounded by the recession. Peter Fiskin, a director, praised the efforts of employees. "We shall find as many of them jobs as possible," he said.

Sheet copper and non-ferrous alloy strip have been produced at IMI's Wotton site in north Birmingham since the first world war, when 25,000 were employed there making munitions.

Today, 2,250 work at Wotton and more than 100 acres is being redeveloped as an industrial estate. Closure of the works will free another 125 acres. Closure costs, running into several million pounds, will appear as an extraordinary item in IMI's accounts for calendar year 1990.

Mr Fiskin said Rolled Metals had lost money in 1989 and 1990, despite sales of £40 million. IMI's other non-ferrous operations, IMI Refiners at Smethwick, West Midlands, and Yorkshire Alloys in Leeds, were profitable, and were not at risk, he said.

## Evered likely to launch bid for Bardon Group

By COLIN CAMPBELL

EVERED, the acquisitive quarry products group with interests in Britain and America, is likely to announce today that it is bidding for Bardon Group, its fellow quarry company.

The shares of both groups, quoted in the building materials sector, were suspended yesterday pending a further announcement.

Bardon, last traded at 94p and with a market capitalisation of £75 million, was put up

for sale last July when Peter Tom, the chairman, and his family, who are holders of 54.7 per cent of the company's capital, said they would consider bids for their holding. Bardon shares then traded at 175p.

Two months later, in September, Bardon said the "for sale" sign was coming down because no suitably attractive offer had been made.

The group owns Bardon Hill, one of the few British "super quarries", on a 1,200-acre site near Leicester. The quarry contains 90 million tonnes of granite reserves, with full planning consent.

In the six months ended June, pre-tax profits at Bardon fell from £3.24 million to £1.01 million on an interim turnover of £53.2 million, compared with a previous £65.5 million. The interim dividend was held at 0.96p a share.

Analysts have forecast pre-tax profits for the year ended December of £7 million, compared with £12 million for the previous nine-month reporting period to end-December 1989.

The latest figures are due for publication in March.

Evered, whose chief executive is Roy Kettle, has a market capitalisation of £220 million and its shares were suspended at 79p. The company is expected to report pre-tax profits of £45 million in 1990, compared with £39 million last year.

Net earnings per share for the 1990 financial year are expected to fall from 15p to 12p because of the effect of acquisitions.



Acquisitive: Roy Kettle, chief executive of Evered



Tom: took down sale sign

## Interim fall for Osprey

DEFERRED expenditure from a number of clients affected profits at Osprey Communications, the marketing services company. Pre-tax profits fell from £670,000 to £363,000 in the six months to end-November on turnover down from £13.9 million to £13.5 million.

John French, the chairman and chief executive, said most of the deferred expenditure has now been committed. The interim dividend is maintained at 1.35p despite a fall in earnings from 4.12p to 1.72p per share. The shares were unchanged at 36p.

## Back in black

International Communication & Data, the database company that supplies consumer information to the direct marketing industry, made a pre-tax profit of £130,000 in the eight months to end-October 1990. The group incurred a loss of £81,000 in the six months to end-August 1990. Turnover rose from £3.98 million to £5.62 million and earnings stood at 0.36p (0.23p loss) per share. Again, there is no interim dividend.

## Lovell chief

Robert Sellier becomes chief executive of YJ Lovell (Holdings), the builder, on April 1. Mr Sellier is a group managing director of George Wimpey.

## Blue Arrow trial

The Blue Arrow trial will start on February 11. All ten defendants - comprising seven individuals and three companies - have been charged with conspiracy to defraud.

## Turkish visit

Administrators of Polly Peck International are visiting Meyna, the company's fresh fruit subsidiary in Turkey. Cashflow at Meyna, the bulk of whose exports go to Gulf countries, has dwindled since the start of war in the Gulf.

## Midland closure

Midland Montagu has closed its Australian foreign exchange department with the loss of 40 jobs.

## Security Pacific in Wells Fargo talks

By NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

SECURITY Pacific and Wells Fargo, two of California's leading banks, have begun merger negotiations. If successful, the merger will be America's largest bank merger, while the combined bank will rival Citicorp as the country's largest.

A spokesman for Security Pacific refused to comment on reports of the negotiations, but the two are believed to have begun discussing terms last month. These were broken off when Security Pacific suffered a \$625 million bad debt provision in the fourth quarter, which pushed it into a loss of \$358 million. The bank also

set aside a \$200 million charge for a worldwide restructuring programme. This is expected to cut the bank's staff by 4,000.

The talks between Carl Reichardt, Wells's chief executive, and Robert Smith, his counterpart at Security Pacific, are now believed to have restarted.

Security Pacific's largest operation in Britain is Hoare Govett, the stockbroker, where it is planning to sell a majority stake to its employees. Wells, meanwhile, is best known in the City for buying Crocker, Midland's ill-fated American subsidiary, in the mid-Eighties.

## Figures halved at Fiat

GIANNI Agnelli, the chairman of Fiat, expressed gloom about his company's prospects this year after 1990 operating profits fell by more than half from 4,680 billion lire to 2,100 billion lire (£957.5 million).

In a letter to shareholders, Signor Agnelli, whose company one year ago was on the brink of becoming Europe's largest motor manufacturer,

said: "The 1991 economic forecasts point to a continuation of a difficult situation that will require severe cost containment, production restructuring [and] reduction of financing cost."

Turnover in the crucial car sector fell from 28,400 billion lire to 27,400 billion lire, with similar negative trends in other activities.

## Broad Street rescue plan

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

SHAREHOLDERS in Broad Street Group, the public relations group, are to be offered 1p a share in a rescue plan that will give full control to BDDP, the ambitious privately owned French advertising group. The deal values Broad Street at £500,000 against almost £10 million when it came to the Unlisted Securities Market via a reverse takeover in 1986.

As part of the restructuring package, BDDP will invest up to £3 million in the business and, subject to this, the group's bankers have agreed to waive £4.8 million of the group's £6.8 million debt. Brian Basham, Broad Street's main founder, will leave.

## Hutchison in \$5.5m deal with Millicom

By PHILIP PANGALOS

MILlicom, the American telecommunications group, has sold its British paging operation to Hutchison Telecommunications, a subsidiary of Hutchison Whampoa of Hong Kong, for about \$5.5 million.

The purchase of Millicom Information Services, one of Britain's seven national paging operators, is the first British paging acquisition by Hutchison, which owns one of the largest paging businesses in the world.

Hutchison's paging subsidiary is the largest private paging company in Asia, serving more than 50 per cent of Hong Kong's estimated 600,000 paging subscribers.

This deal brings Hutchison's total investment in British mobile communications to about £45 million since it entered the market in December 1989. This expansion of Hutchison's British interests follows its successful establishment of a cellular phone business. The group acquired Quadrant in 1989, followed by Nokia Mobile Phones in May 1990, doubling its subscriber base.

David Steadman, managing director of Hutchison's British operations, said: "We see the UK telecommunications market as an exciting place. The duopoly review presents exciting opportunities."

Millicom Information Services was the most recent company to be awarded a paging licence, and currently provides services in the south-east and north of England. Hutchison plans to invest £10 million to complete the British network this year.

## Severn to take 20% of Aquafin

By OUR FINANCIAL EDITOR

SEVERN Trent is close to expanding its sewage treatment business on to the Continent, by taking a 20 per cent stake in a new Flemish company that will invest £1 billion over the next five years to upgrade the sewage system of Flanders to meet European standards.

The Flemish regional government, which owns the existing outdated sewage system, has contracted out the improvements to Aquafin, the company set up by GIMV, the government-owned regional investment company.

The Midlands water services group signed a technical advice agreement with Aquafin last year and is close to agreeing to take a 20 per cent stake in Aquafin as the main partner in the venture.

Severn Trent would invest about £25 million over five years and initially supply ten senior managers and engineers, but would continue to be paid for technical services.

GIMV will retain a 51 per cent stake in Aquafin, which is expected to offer shares to the Belgian public. Aquafin could take over the existing state-owned sewage network later.

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### Daejan Holdings falls to £8.27m at halfway

DAEJAN Holdings, the property investment and trading group, unveiled pre-tax profits of £8.27 million for the half year to end-September, against £8.75 million last time. The year to end-September, against £8.75 million last time, was offset by increased expenditure on property maintenance. This resulted in rent and service charges, less property outgoings, slipping from £7.17 million to £6.66 million. The surplus on property sales rose from £4.09 million to £4.8 million.

Earnings per share slipped from 34.73p to 32.24p. The interim dividend is maintained at 8p. Daejan said that profits for the current year should be satisfactory, although they are likely to be below last year's £19.4 million.

### Prism up 33% to £303,000

PRE-TAX profits at Prism Leisure Corporation, the USM wholesale distributor of music and computer games, jumped 33 per cent from £228,000 to £303,000 in the six months to end-September. Turnover grew to £5.24 million (£4.72 million). Earnings per share rose to 4.6p (2.6p). The interim dividend remains at 1.5p.

### McKay raises payout to 3p

McKAY Securities, the property investment and development company, reported pre-tax profits up to £1.91 million (£1.74 million) for the six months to the end of September. Earnings were 5.5p a share (5p). The company said it would recommend a final dividend not less than the interim dividend of 3p (2.8p).

### Monarch joint venture

MONARCH Resources, the gold mining group currently concentrating on exploration opportunities in Venezuela and one of The Times five mining shares for 1991, has entered into a definitive agreement with the North American group Cyprus Minerals to develop gold properties in Venezuela.

Cyprus will have a 51 per cent interest and Monarch a 49 per cent stake in a joint venture that covers three concessions, but profits will be shared equally. Monarch shares traded at 120p.

### Specialeyes sees black

SPECIALEYES, the USM-quoted optician, returned to profit in the six months to mid-November. Pre-tax profits were £56,000, compared with a loss of £698,000. Sales rose 2.6 per cent to £6.7 million and earnings per share were 0.38p (4.74p loss). Again, there is no interim dividend.

### Benson buys Hytex assets

BENSON Group, maker of gas and oil heaters, has bought the business of Hytex Rubber Company, a rubber moulding manufacturer, for £210,000 cash, payment deferred for six months. Benson is to move its existing moulding business, Duo, from Wolverhampton to the Hytex site at Rotherham.

### Silvermines in US sale

SILVERMINES Group, the Irish company, is selling its St Clair Group in America to a subsidiary of Nachi-Fujikoshi Corporation, the Japanese engineering group, for a net \$29.8 million. St Clair had net assets of \$14.6 million and pre-tax profits of \$3.9 million in the year ended December, 1989.

The sale is subject to American and Japanese government approvals and to that of Silvermines' shareholders. The proceeds will reduce Silvermines' net borrowings to insignificant levels, the company said.

### T&N adds more links with Japan

By OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE accelerating internationalisation of car manufacture is hauling a global train of link-ups between car parts makers in its wake.

T&N has again sought the benefits of such linkages, announcing an agreement to manufacture engine parts under licence from Teikoku Piston Ring Company of Japan.

Colin Hope, T&N chairman, said yesterday he hoped the agreement would enable T&N plants at Sunderland and Salisbury to win more business with Japanese vehicle assembly factories setting up in Europe.

T&N's vehicle components arm already supplies Nissan at Washington, Tyne and Wear. Toyota and Honda are both to undertake manufacture in Britain.

T&N's sales of piston ring products worldwide account for £230 million of its £1 billion a year car components operation. Piston part sales in Britain exceed £70 million.

The deal with Teikoku is the latest of several technology share arrangements reached between T&N and Japanese manufacturers.

Mr Hope said others were likely to follow.

### DY Davies axes payout at half time

By OUR CITY STAFF

DY DAVIES, the USM-quoted architectural services group, has axed its interim dividend after diving into the red at half time.

The company, which gave warning of the loss in October, reported a pre-tax loss of £289,000 to end-October (profit of £633,000). Turnover declined from £5.5 million to £5.13 million. The shares lost 10p to 35p.

David Davies, chairman, blamed the decline on delayed contracts and the recession affecting the property and building sectors. He said: "The core business is still trading well and profitably," although three subsidiaries incurred losses on "greatly reduced turnovers".

Mr Davies said cost-cutting and reduced overheads should enable Jackson Greenen Down & Partners, the architect, Synergy Consulting Engineers and Davies Design, the retail graphics designer, to move into profit by the end of the financial year.

There was an operating loss of £110,000, against a profit of £729,000. Interest payments jumped from £96,000 to £179,000, with gearing at about 120 per cent. The loss per share was 3.4p, against earnings of 7p. The payout was 1.8p last time.

## DAEJAN HOLDINGS P.L.C.

1990 INTERIM STATEMENT  
Results for the half year ended 30 September 1990 - unaudited

	6 months to 30.9.90 £'000	6 months to 30.9.89 £'000
Rent and Service Charges less Property Outgoings Surplus on Sales of Properties and Other Income	6,656	7,174
Financing Charges and Other Expenses	4,802	4,092
Group Profit before Tax Less: Taxation Minority Interests	11,458	11,286
Profit for the Half Year	3,185	2,512
Earnings per Share	8.273	8.754
	3,005	3,078
	13	16
	£5,255	£5,660
	32.24p	34.73p

Included in Surplus on Sales of Properties is an amount of £988,000 (1989: £1,171,000) using prior year revaluation surpluses now realised. Gross rental income has increased during the half year although this has been more than offset by increased expenditure on property maintenance. An increase in interest charges, resulting from the current year's increase in borrowing, has also contributed to the current year's loss. An interim Dividend of 8p per share (1989: 8p) will be paid on 15 March 1991 to shareholders registered on 15 February 1991. The dividend will amount to £1,304,000 (1989: £1,304,000).

This announcement appears as a matter of record only

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## PSIT Property Security Investment Trust plc

### Interim Report

Six months to	30.9.90	30.9.89
Unaudited figures	£'000's	£'000's
Total rents	7,322	6,418
Profit before tax, dealing and extraordinary items	2,308	2,149
Taxation	314	714
Profit for shareholders	2,541	2,824
Dividend: preference ordinary	34 40	1,505

■ The company continues its prudent policy of charging to Revenue Account all interest in respect of investment properties including those in the course of development.

■ The company has no off balance sheet accounting.

■ No administration or finance costs are capitalised.

■ Earnings per share after tax and extraordinary items were 2.50p per share (1.07p net basis). Earnings 1990 were 2.77p (2.10p net basis).

■ An interim dividend in respect of the year ending 31st March 1991 of 1.5p per share (1990: 1.5p) will be paid on 2nd April 1991 to shareholders registered at the close of business on 15th February 1991.

Copies of the full statement may be obtained from G H Cairns Esq, Fencham Park House, Lower Road, Fencham, Surrey KT22 9HD.



## Two cheers for a free Heathrow

### COMMENT

The proposals to free access to London's Heathrow airport deserve only two cheers. For they give the wrong message to the US government about airline de-regulation and encourage our own government to throw away a trump card in the forthcoming bilateral talks between the two countries.

The proposals drawn up by the Civil Aviation Authority would allow new carriers into Heathrow which are currently excluded by a cumbersome set of rules designed to divert carriers to Gatwick or Stansted. The CAA itself admits that the outcome would be unpredictable. For unpredictable read chaotic.

A free for all would eventually favour the large international carriers with deep pockets at the expense of smaller airlines. For the smaller companies would be badly placed in the series of swaps and cash inducements that is likely to emerge from a scrapping of the present restrictions.

Aside from these possibilities though, the changes, if properly formulated, could bring greater choice both to domestic passen-

gers and those in transit through Heathrow.

But it would be wrong for the British government to indicate its willingness to make such changes just yet. What is needed in the wider interests of both consumer choice and for the narrower benefits of British airlines is greater access to the United States, the largest domestic market in the world.

At present there are severe restrictions on overseas investment in American media, defence and transportation companies. The effect of these is to prevent foreigners from controlling such businesses.

The government is currently in a strong position to bargain with the American authorities over some easing of these anti-competitive restrictions. For the financially troubled TWA and Pan Am companies both wish to sell their rights to land at Heathrow to American Airlines and United Airlines respectively.

The sales could be crucial, certainly in Pan Am's case, in staving off worse financial difficulties.

The government would be unwise to suggest its willingness to free access to Heathrow without wringing corresponding concessions from America.

### Power play

The power generation float is supposedly aimed at more experienced investors with a minimum £300 initial and £525 final minimum investment. In practice, John Wakeham, the energy secretary, has kept the formula that wreaked such senseless and uneconomic havoc in the sale of the distribution companies. Since buyers have to buy a package of shares in

National Power and the smaller PowerGen, the minimum subscription to the latter will be no more than £120, for a final investment of £220, barely a fifth of the minimum economic investment for trading and administration.

This may be popular privatisation but undermines any serious policy of building on wider share ownership. Fortunately, all that may prove academic. The government is ploughing doggedly through its sale timetable, knowing that the issue can readily be pulled either before the pathfinder prospectus is circulated or before the price is fixed and the offer started in a month's time.

The potential sale price is falling daily. James Capel, a broker to the issue, is still trying to persuade institutions that a 7

per cent yield would be reasonable, but is being told that 8.5 per cent may not be enough.

Nor are taxpayers likely to recoup their money as investors. Millions will have been put off by the disco circus. Most of the rest will surely not bring out their chequebooks while there is a war on. In those circumstances, Mr Wakeham can forget wider share ownership. Foreign investors may not feel this the ideal moment for adventure. The generators will only be sold if they are virtually given away to City institutions.

### Cold comfort

Broad Street, the public relations group, did not hold a press conference on its "financial reconstruction" yesterday. More than 3,000 outside shareholders have truly been left out in the cold, since the existing board can make sure the

deal goes through.

The company's founders got most of their money out long ago, as did their fleeing new patron, James Gulliver. Lynne Franks and her family and the executives of Financial Dynamics, whose earnings bonuses ultimately caused the collapse, are to receive lucrative new incentives based not on today's troubled trading but on what happens in the future. The bankers have had to grasp a nasty nettle but will at least get £2 million back and some call on future surplus cash flow.

This makes sense to BDDP, the ambitious new owner, which wants a continuing business in Britain after failing to win the hand of Boase Massimi Pollitt. The French have been canny, first buying a stake and then gaining control without making a bid.

They can give another sound lesson to any new generation of investors who may be tempted in the next bull market to back service companies whose assets can walk out of the door. BDDP has stayed private. That is the way it should be.

CAN Western companies and products succeed in Japan? If you can sell bricks to Japan, you can probably sell them just about anything — and Butterley Brick, part of Hanson Industries, has sold 4 million bricks to the Japanese since 1988.

Or how about Nestlé, which has more than 60 per cent of the Japanese instant coffee market? Dunlop takes 50 per cent of golf ball sales, and 70 per cent of all stainless steel razor blades bought by the Japanese are produced by Schick.

Nordica and Salomon are ski-boot market leaders; Pilkington supplies 10 per cent of the optical glass; sales of BMWs and Jaguars are booming, and even Rover has enjoyed modest success.

It is asserted that the Japanese market is difficult to penetrate, but this is not mainly due to import restraints. In fact, Japanese trade barriers have been exaggerated, often by industrialists trying to cover up their own failure to market products competently or to justify lobbying for protection from Japanese competition in their domestic market.

What makes Japan such a difficult market is not trade barriers but its competitive nature. In Japan, Western manufacturers are pitched against some of the most efficient producers and sharpest sellers in the world. So why bother with such a cut-throat market? For one thing, Japan's GNP amounts to more than a third of the combined GNPs of all the world's industrialised nations except America, so it is worth the effort even if the market share gained is small.

There is a further important point. Just as Japanese companies studied their American counterparts and refined their techniques in order to penetrate the Western markets, so many Western companies have realised that they will have to study Japanese methods in order to compete.

How, then, do Western

## Companies who learn rules strike it rich in Japan



West meets East: Coty, Helena Rubinstein, Larvin and Revlon sell well in Tokyo perfume departments

companies succeed in Japan? The first point is that companies must, like the Japanese, take a long-term view. It took Schick many years to gain just 5 per cent of Japanese razor blade sales, before boosting its share to a dominant 70 per cent of the market.

The message is clear: if you want to succeed in Japan, you have to behave like a Japanese company; you must be as

patiently committed as they are to long-term growth over short-term profits.

Cultural sensitivity is also crucial. When Unilever found that some Japanese girls washed their hair twice a day, the company adapted their shampoos to the local market and clever marketing pushed their Timotei brand into the No 1 slot.

It goes without saying that

market research has also to be carefully interpreted through eyes sensitive to Japanese cultural habits. In 1980, BSN, the French food group, thought that it could emulate the success in Japan of some Western food products with its Danone yoghurt.

BSN made a crucial mistake, however, by misinterpreting its market research. The problem was that answers to the company's marketing surveys were assessed by European-designed criteria.

What the researchers failed to recognise was the politeness of the Japanese, who said they liked the product even when they thought it awful.

Japanese also equate price with quality to a greater degree than elsewhere. When Brown-Forman, the distiller, tried to boost Jack Daniel's sales by reducing the price of its premium brand, sales fell.

Good service is another essential for companies aspiring to success in the Japanese market. Franchised car dealers send representatives round to their customers every few months to check that their cars are running satisfactorily. BMW took the decision to meet Japanese service expectations and, as a result, its sales are rapidly rising.

American exports to Japan exceed sales to France, Germany and Italy together, despite the larger size of those combined markets. British sales to Japan have also boomed in recent years.

Such successes should call into question the assumption that the Japanese market is closed. But the ground rules for success in Japan are severe, and any company that thinks it will succeed just by sending a rep with a sample suitcase is likely to be sorely disappointed.

PHILLIP OPPENHEIM

Phillip Oppenheim, the Conservative MP for Amber Valley, is author of *The New Masters — Can The West Match Japan?* (Hutchinson Business Books, published tomorrow).

## ADT feels force of unlucky 13

THE 13th year proved unlucky for Michael Ashcroft's ADT. Under that transatlantic guise, or its previous British name of Hawley, ADT has been one of those companies that have not felt any necessity to tell shareholders what is going on, or pitch for the City's affections, because it has increased earnings for 12 consecutive years.

Yesterday's warning, that the small body of loyal analysts had been over-optimistic and that 1990 profits had fallen about 10 per cent, therefore had a drastic impact in London. Despite some late American buying, the shares lost 13 per cent to 80p.

Some City forecasts were still about 10 to 15 per cent up on 1989 pre-tax profits of £290 million. According to the characteristically terse statement, the main security and car auction businesses are performing close to analysts' expectations, that is to say about a fifth up on the combined 1989 figure of £175 million.

There have clearly been some disasters on the finance and investment side or in associates. One obvious candidate is "Christies". International ADT is sitting on a paper loss of about £35 million on its 23 per cent stake,

though, since this is likely to be treated as an associate, it is unclear whether this will be taken above the line.

On paper, the drop makes ADT shares good value. They sell at less than 7.5 times 1990 earnings and would yield 11.5 per cent on a dividend ADT should have no trouble in at least maintaining. That may appeal to North American investors who, including Laidlaw's near-30 per cent stake, own two-thirds of the shares. No new interest is likely this side of the pond.

### John D Wood

JOHN D Wood has shown that life continues even in the harshest environment. While many competitors are folding, the upmarket estate agent is gaining market share, ready for the next property boom.

Wood notched up a pre-tax profit of £201,000 in the six months to end-October, a decline of only 7 per cent. The agency's turnover actually increased 9 per cent to £2.41 million.

Interest on Wood's cash reserves contributed £72,000 of the profit, but the perfor-

mance is still a credit to Wood's cost controls and the resilience of the central London property market. Wood says there is still an unsatisfied demand for houses worth more than £1 million in Kensington and Holland Park.

The rise in sales in the depressed market shows how Wood has benefited from its competitors' misfortunes. The agency's capital strength allows it to support loss-making branches and to expand.

Loyal Wood shareholders have suffered since the company came to the market in 1987, with its shares placed at 144p. Now down to 55p, they carry a p/e ratio of 18, assuming a full-year profit of £400,000. A reasonable recovery play in a bombed-out sector.

### Microgen

MICROGEN Holdings, the computer services company that faced troubles in 1989 when a £835,000 fraud was perpetrated, found a silver lining in 1990 in the form of the poll tax.

Microgen says it is now well

placed to help local authorities with the administrative burden of collecting the 1991 poll tax round. The company adds that three recent acquisitions will start to contribute profits this year, and that "solid, sustained growth" should be in store despite the recession.

In the year to October, pre-tax profits moved 18 per cent higher to £8.5 million on a 5 per cent rise in turnover to £47.1 million, and the final dividend is raised from 4.5p to 4.8p, making 7p (6.7p) for the year.

The management team is stronger, net borrowings over the 13-month period were cut from £1.6 million to £33,000 by October 31, and further acquisitions are a possibility.

The group's business net now encompasses all of Scandinavia, where recent acquisitions should add £3 million to turnover in a full year. Though business conditions may remain flat, Microgen at least enjoys regular repeat income from continuing clients.

Same-again profits of about £8.5 million would not disappoint, given economic conditions, and at 120p, on a prospective rating of 8.8 times, backed by a 7.8 per cent yield, the shares are a reasonable hold.

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Almost bust at Bankrupts

TRANSAX, the cheque guarantee company, has stepped in to stave off bankruptcy at the Association of Bankrupts. Transax, of Birmingham, has stumped up £2,500 and is trying to persuade others to do likewise. The cash is the first donation from a commercial group in the eight-year life of an organisation that has little scope for milking its members. John McQueen, the secretary who runs the association from his home in Lancaster, has just upped the annual subscription from £5 to £9 but he admits: "Many people who want to join say they cannot afford even that. We let them join anyway. Company liquidations and personal bankruptcies were a catastrophe last year as many this year." Transax was set up four years ago to insure retailers against accepting cheques for more than the £50 limit normally set for cheque guarantee cards. McQueen helped it to produce a helpline newsletter. Now Transax is returning the favour. McQueen has no illusions that the £2,500 has done anything more than buy time for the service he provides to his 800 members. He approached John Redwood, the minister responsible for the Insolvency Service, last November and has since dropped hints for government aid of somewhere between £20,000 and £50,000. Ever the optimist, he says: "I hope the de-

lay in hearing from him is because our plea is being considered as part of the government's new caring image."

A TOUGH line on cutting costs by Broken Hill Proprietary. Recipients of the annual report are asked if they wish to stay on the publication list. The note ends with the dire threat: "A non-response to this letter by January 31, 1991, will be treated as a positive response, ie you will remain on our list."

### Parched Kent

WATER, water everywhere... except where it is needed most. Readers suffering from the prolonged and heavy wet spell may care to spare a thought for thirsty Kent. Water, which has had a hosepipe ban for the best part of two years. Brian Coleman, managing director, says: "You have only got to look at the weather charts to see the clouds disappearing up north. We have had only light rain." This week Kent asked the environment department for permission to extend its ban on non-essential water use, such as washing the outside of buildings, watering sports grounds and filling swimming pools. Coleman reckons he needed 20 ft of snow over Christmas to solve his problems. With hopes of an excessively white Christmas dashed, nothing less than 14 inches of rain by April will do. Underground water supplies are lower than last year and the one surface reservoir, where the level had to be

lowered for repairs after the 1987 storms, is still only 55 per cent full, despite the pumping up of supplies from the river Medway. Customers have co-operated, although Coleman admits they are getting



cheered off. Consumption fell after Mid Kent ran a competition last year for the best ideas on how to save water. A small boy was awarded a bottle of bubble bath for suggesting that children should not have to wash themselves until the drought was over.

### Lack of service

ROAD haulage firms rejoicing over the completion of the M40 are well advised to fill up the lorries and empty the drivers. Service areas are not likely to open for another two years, the Freight Transport Association says, and even that estimate is probably optimistic. Don McIntyre, the FTA's road and traffic controller, calculates that Birmingham trucks serving the Channel ports will travel more than 200 miles without seeing a petrol pump or toilet on the shortest route using the M5,

M42, M40, M25, M26, M20, A229 and M2. Taking the M25 round the north of London gives access to two service areas but adds 17 miles plus the dreaded Dartford tunnel bottleneck to the journey.

### Liquid figures

AS THE number of insolvent companies goes up, the number of directors declared unfit to sit in the boardroom goes down. Latest figures show insolvent liquidations rising from 9,800 in 1988 to 11,492 in 1989 and 16,773 in the first nine months of last year. Yet disqualification orders fell from 332 to 318 and 287 in the same periods. The figures have brought a broadside from the Institute of Credit Management, whose chairman, Peter Martin, thunders: "During 1990, insolvency practitioners and the official receiver submitted to the DIT's Insolvency Practice 4,235 reports on directors of failed companies but only 287 directors, 7 per cent of the total, were disqualified. That means that 93 per cent of those directors judged unfit by the accountancy profession are free to take other directorships. Are the standards of the insolvency practitioners and the official receiver really so much higher than those of the DIT?" Peter Rowe, ICM head of external affairs, is slightly more charitable. He says: "Our suspicion is that the DIT is not diverting enough resources to the problem."

RODNEY HOBSON

# THE TIMES GUIDE TO 1992

## BRITAIN IN A EUROPE WITHOUT FRONTIERS A Comprehensive Handbook

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## Reject's losses worsen

THE Reject Shop incurred an increased pre-tax loss of £301,000 (£255,000 loss) in the six months to end-September on turnover up from £7.49 million to £9.17 million. The loss per share was 2.1p (1.75p loss) and the dividend is unchanged at 1.05p. Gains in the trading performance were wiped out by a near doubling in interest charges to £157,000.

The group says that while trading conditions have deteriorated since the middle of November and remain depressed, margins have improved. Directors anticipate a satisfactory outcome for the full year.

## Property slips

Rent receipts at Property Security Investment Trust climbed to £7.32 million (£6.42 million), although pre-tax profits fell to £1.42 million (£2.92 million) in the six months to end-September. Interest costs rose to £5.31 million (£4.52 million). There was a dealing loss of £887,000 (£773,000 profit). Earnings per share, after tax and extraordinary items, rose from 1.07p to 2.5p. The interim dividend stays at 1.5p.

## Delay at TNT

TNT, the Australian transport group, says an Aus\$255 million (£102 million) preference share issue, agreed by shareholders, has been delayed. The offer will not be made before the end of this month.

## Butte offer

Butte Mining has declared its takeover offer for Vam of Australia unconditional after receiving acceptances worth 54.9 per cent of Vam's capital. Butte's offer is extended to February 28.

## STC payout

STC, the telecommunications group, has declared a second interim dividend of 10p a share after the offer by Northern Telecom of Canada for the group became unconditional.

## Lopex sale

Lopex, the advertising and marketing group, has sold Harvest Information Services to the Mintel International Group for £148,000 cash. In addition, Mintel has assumed liabilities of £85,000.

## STOCK MARKET

# Shares see-saw as dealers' concern grows over war

SHARES in London recovered from early falls after dull overnight performances from New York and Tokyo.

Dealers showed an increasing concern that the Gulf war is developing into a drawn-out affair.

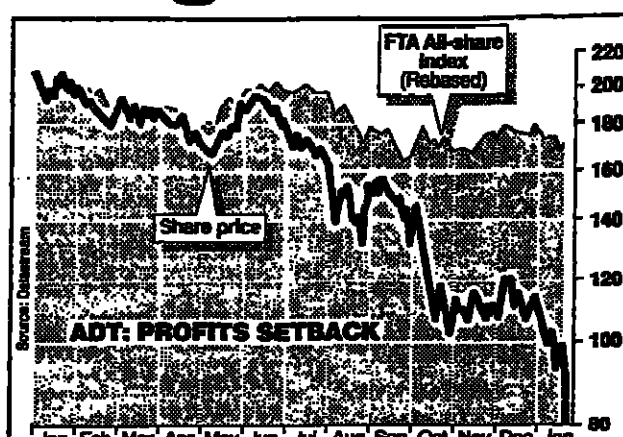
The FT-SE 100 index staged a gradual recovery from an early 12-point drop to close 2.4 easier at 2,081.6. The FT index of 30 shares shed 8.1 points to 1,630.6 in thin trading.

Sentiment was not helped by an initial 20-point fall on Wall Street, driven lower by comments from Alan Greenspan, Federal Reserve chairman, that monetary policy will remain tight and that the American economic downturn may get worse before it improves.

Government securities clawed back earlier falls of 4 to finish unchanged. A mixed programme trade by County NatWest WoodMac, the broker, helped to stimulate some interest in equities, boosting turnover to 363 million shares. Prominent among these was Reed International, 7p lower at 359p as a parcel of 1.8 million shares went through the market. By the close of business almost 5 million shares had been traded.

The fall in advertising revenue and worries about the proposed sale of the combined 56 per cent stake held by Thorn EMI and BET left Thames Television 11p lower at 282p.

Rank Organisation fell 20p



to 597p after Smith New Court, the broker, tried to unload a parcel of 200,000 shares in the market. But it seems that the broker was unable to complete its task in the thin conditions as other market-makers went on the

British Vita, the foam, plastics, fibres and rubber compounds group, held steady at 190p. Smith New Court, the broker, likes the group, which has interests in Europe making it well placed to take advantage of opportunities in the Eastern bloc. SNC is looking for earnings growth to be maintained and expects investors to be rewarded by the shares moving to a premium.

defensive and marked the price sharply lower.

Tate & Lyle rose 3p to 290p. The group is due to replace STC as a constituent of the FT-SE 100. This will make the shares more attractive to fund managers and also attract the support of overseas investors and the index tracking funds.

STC ended 1p firmer at 327p. Lucas Industries, the automotive and aerospace group,

million, it thinks. The European car industry, including Germany, has suffered a serious downturn that is bound to affect the component distributors.

Smith says further rationalisation at Lucas would seem to be on the cards. Its last cost-cutting exercise was brought to a sudden halt by the revival of the car market in the mid-Eighties.

ADT, the security services and car auction group headed by Michael Ashcroft, touched 74p before closing 14p lower at 78p, after issuing a profits warning.

The group said the core electronic security protection and vehicle auction business was performing close to analysts' expectations but gave warning that other areas of the business were suffering. As a result, pre-tax profits are likely to be 10 per cent lower than the £20 million achieved last year.

Barclays de Zotte Wedd had been forecasting pre-tax profits of £330 million this time but has now reduced its forecast to £264 million.

Those companies where ADT has sizeable stakes lost ground in sympathy as bid hopes receded. BAA lost 11p at 350p and Christie's International, the fine art auctioneer, 7p to 145p.

Shares of Evered, the building products group, were suspended at 79p pending an announcement. The suspension also coincided with a temporary halt being called to dealings in rival Baxendale Group at 94p, leading to speculation that the two companies were contemplating a merger.

But Broad Street, the ailing public relations group, returned from suspension at 4p after a rescue bid of 1p a share from BDDP, the French advertising agency.

MICHAEL CLARK

## Greenspan sparks off selling

NEW YORK SHARES posted losses after comments by Alan Greenspan, the Federal Reserve chairman, touched off a round of selling. Traders said reports of an Iraqi missile attack on Saudi Arabia also weighed on the market.

Mr Greenspan said aggressive monetary policy could be counterproductive. He also said there is a possibility that economic activity may decline.

The banking sector remained firm on a published report that merger talks had taken place between Wells Fargo and Security Pacific.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 15.6 points to 2,613.61 in early trading.

Concerns about the duration of the Gulf war and renewed talk of higher taxes sent the Dow down 15.08 points to 1,375.12. (Reuters)

## MAJOR INDICES

New York: Dow Jones 2613.61 (-15.6)  
S&P Composite 330.58 (-0.48)  
Tokyo: Nikkei Average 2285.55 (-85.54)  
Hong Kong: Hang Seng 3062.08 (-4.90)  
FT-SE Eurotrack 331.73 (-4.25)  
Amsterdam: CBOE Volatility 77.7 (-0.1)  
Sydney: ASX 1270.1 (-0.3)  
Frankfurt: DAX 1375.12 (-15.08)  
Brussels: CBOE Volatility 482.49 (-1.27)  
Paris: CAC 412.16 (-3.42)  
Zurich: SMI 442.5 (-3.0)  
London: FT-SE 100 2081.6 (-8.1)  
FT-SE 250 1630.6 (-8.1)  
FT-SE 100 Dividend Yield 3.5%  
FT-SE 250 Dividend Yield 3.5%  
FT-SE 100 P/E Ratio 15.0  
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 ADDRESS  
 POSTCODE





10 Other Chng Ytd			11 Other Chng Ytd			12 Other Chng Ytd			13 Other Chng Ytd			14 Other Chng Ytd			15 Other Chng Ytd			16 Other Chng Ytd			17 Other Chng Ytd			18 Other Chng Ytd			19 Other Chng Ytd			20 Other Chng Ytd			21 Other Chng Ytd			22 Other Chng Ytd			23 Other Chng Ytd			24 Other Chng Ytd			25 Other Chng Ytd			26 Other Chng Ytd			27 Other Chng Ytd			28 Other Chng Ytd			29 Other Chng Ytd			30 Other Chng Ytd			31 Other Chng Ytd			32 Other Chng Ytd			33 Other Chng Ytd			34 Other Chng Ytd			35 Other Chng Ytd			36 Other Chng Ytd			37 Other Chng Ytd			38 Other Chng Ytd			39 Other Chng Ytd			40 Other Chng Ytd			41 Other Chng Ytd			42 Other Chng Ytd			43 Other Chng Ytd			44 Other Chng Ytd			45 Other Chng Ytd			46 Other Chng Ytd			47 Other Chng Ytd			48 Other Chng Ytd			49 Other Chng Ytd			50 Other Chng Ytd			51 Other Chng Ytd			52 Other Chng Ytd			53 Other Chng Ytd			54 Other Chng Ytd			55 Other Chng Ytd			56 Other Chng Ytd			57 Other Chng Ytd			58 Other Chng Ytd			59 Other Chng Ytd			60 Other Chng Ytd			61 Other Chng Ytd			62 Other Chng Ytd			63 Other Chng Ytd			64 Other Chng Ytd			65 Other Chng Ytd			66 Other Chng Ytd			67 Other Chng Ytd			68 Other Chng Ytd			69 Other Chng Ytd			70 Other Chng Ytd			71 Other Chng Ytd			72 Other Chng Ytd			73 Other Chng Ytd			74 Other Chng Ytd			75 Other Chng Ytd			76 Other Chng Ytd			77 Other Chng Ytd			78 Other Chng Ytd			79 Other Chng Ytd			80 Other Chng Ytd			81 Other Chng Ytd			82 Other Chng Ytd			83 Other Chng Ytd			84 Other Chng Ytd			85 Other Chng Ytd			86 Other Chng Ytd			87 Other Chng Ytd			88 Other Chng Ytd			89 Other Chng Ytd			90 Other Chng Ytd			91 Other Chng Ytd			92 Other Chng Ytd			93 Other Chng Ytd			94 Other Chng Ytd			95 Other Chng Ytd			96 Other Chng Ytd			97 Other Chng Ytd			98 Other Chng Ytd			99 Other Chng Ytd			100 Other Chng Ytd			101 Other Chng Ytd			102 Other Chng Ytd			103 Other Chng Ytd			104 Other Chng Ytd			105 Other Chng Ytd			106 Other Chng Ytd			107 Other Chng Ytd			108 Other Chng Ytd			109 Other Chng Ytd			110 Other Chng Ytd			111 Other Chng Ytd			112 Other Chng Ytd			113 Other Chng Ytd			114 Other Chng Ytd			115 Other Chng Ytd			116 Other Chng Ytd</
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## MONEY MARKETS

[illegible]

\*\* Yield expressed as CAR (Composite Annual Return) or Ex dividend, or Current dividend, or Current stock split, or Ex stock split, or Current all (any two or more of above), or Ex all (any two or more of above). Dating or valuation days: (1) Monday, (2) Tuesday, (3) Wednesday, (4) Thursday, (5) Friday, (6) Saturday, (7) Sunday.

## LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

## LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

FT-SE 100	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
Mar 91 —	2111.0	2121.0	2101.0	2111.0	4022	

Previous open interest	Jun 91	2100.0	2100.0	2100.0	2100.0	0
	Sep 91	2180.0	2180.0	2180.0	2180.0	50
<b>Three Month Sterling</b>	Mar 91	65.92	65.95	65.95	65.95	5000

Previous open interest: 118,005	Jun 91	87.84	88.02	87.30	87.98	24,358
	Sep 91	88.55	88.81	88.53	88.58	8885
Three Month Eurodollar	Mar 91	89.34	89.48	89.37	89.38	1545

Previous open interest: 38041	Jun 91	—	92.95	92.97	92.99	92.92	4739
Three Month Esro DM	Mar 91	—	92.63	92.62	92.53	92.52	1269

Previous open interest: 78847	Jun 91	90.73	90.76	90.68	90.74	17065
US Treasury Bond	Mar 91	95.27	94.08	95.02	95.31	5216
Previous open interest: 6757	Jun 91	95.25	95.25	95.22	95.31	4116

<b>Long Gilt</b>	Mar 91	91-16	91-24	91-08	91-17	14983
<b>Previous open interest: 38862</b>	Jun 91	91-28	91-28	91-25	92-01	132

Japanese Govt Bond	Mar 91	95.00	95.13	95.90	95.90	56
Previous open interest: 625	Jun 91					0
German Govt Bond						

Previous open interest: 76854	Mar 91	82.70	82.78	82.50	82.70	27507 276
	Jun 91	82.92	82.92	82.74	82.86	
Three month ECU	Mar 91	89.57	89.60	89.50	89.50	

Previous open interest: 1638	Jun 91	89.27	89.00	89.05	89.56	166
		89.79	89.79	89.79	89.83	5

## COMMODITIES

## COMMODITIES

**SUZAN (FOS)**  
**G Gassikow**

554-553	Mar .. 195.5-85.2	CRUDE OILS (\$/barrel FOB)
563-562	May .. 198.6-87.8	
579-578	Aug .. 205.0-84.2	

585-588	Oct -	206.4-04.6	Brent Physical			
610-608	Dec -	212.6-03.6	Brent 15 day (Feb)	20.65	+1.35	
620-615	Mar -	207.6-06.0	Brent 15 day (Mar)	20.80	+1.45	

Vol: 2727	Vol: 1260	W Texas Intermediate (Feb) _____	20.40	+1.10
		W Texas Intermediate (Mar) _____	23.96	+2.40
		W Texas Intermediate (Mar) _____	21.90	+1.20

<b>LEY</b> <b>(E/U)</b> 112.60 Feb 112.30	<b>HI-PRO SOYA</b> <b>Close (E/U)</b> 112.60 Feb 112.30	<b>PRODUCTS (Buy/sell \$/MT)</b> <b>Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)</b> <b>Premium Gas 15</b>
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112.50	Feb	- 113.5-12.0	Gasoil EEC	238 (-2)	Offer: 243 (-2)
114.80	Apr	- 114.5-13.5	Non EEC 1H Feb	276 (+38)	275 (+38)
116.25	Jun	- 114.5-13.5	Non EEC 1H Apr	245 (+26)	255 (+31)

108.25	Aug - 114.5-14.0	3.5 Fuel Oil	120 (+10)	122 (+10)
108.80	Oct - 117.0-15.0	Naphtha	260 (+10)	265 (+10)
35	Vol - 110			

Volume: 57  
Close: 86.0

121.5	120.9	Feb	225.25-25.00	Jun	179.50-78.50
141.0	139.5	Mar	203.00-02.00	Jul	181.00-81.00
		Apr	197.00-00.00		

MISSION LONDON MEAT FUTURES May 187.00-86.50 Aug 180.00-78.00  
181.00-80.00 Vol 9804

Live Pig (Aug)	Feb	20.75-20.85	Apr	20.00-20.05
Jan	Mar	20.40-20.50		

Cable	Open:	ung		VOL: ung
108.27	Close:	88.5		
-0.29				

DIFFEX  
GNI Freight Futures Dec-82

105.80	Open:	102.0	Jan 91	High: 1460	Low: 1450	Close: 1480
+0.20	Close:	101.8	Feb 91	1455	1430	
-12.0			Apr 91			

108.28	Mar	1320	1320	1487
-1.40	Open:	1065	1305	1320
-21.8	Close:		1055	1055
	unq			
	102.0			
		Vol: 188 lots		

Volume: 35  
Dry cargo index 1452 +4  
Open interest: 4031

Cash: 1191.0-1192.0 3mth: 1223.0-1224.0 Vol: 503800  
 902 00-902 50 917 00-917 50

	1172.0-1173.0	1181.0-1182.0	43350	Bid	Offer
	5640-5645	5750-5755	87675	Feb	154.00 154.00

1525.0-1526.0	1559.0-1560.0	0825	Mar	154.50	165.20
8475-8500	8470-8475	276075	Apr	154.90	155.60
		8034			Vol 579



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## Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your daily dividend figure. If it matches the overall total and check this against the price money stand. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Code	Share Price
1	Bovril	Food	100	100.00
2	Woolworth	Food	100	100.00
3	Steeley	Building	100	100.00
4	AB Food	Food	100	100.00
5	MEPC (a)	Property	100	100.00
6	Time & Life	Food	100	100.00
7	Ultramar (a)	Oil/Gas	100	100.00
8	Coat (Wm)	Industrial A-D	100	100.00
9	Exp Camp Louisiana	Oil/Gas	100	100.00
10	Hunting	Industrial E-K	100	100.00
11	RMC Co	Building	100	100.00
12	Admiral	Electricals	100	100.00
13	Harrogate	Banking	100	100.00
14	Midland	Banking	100	100.00
15	Nat West	Banking	100	100.00
16	Pendragon	Motor/Aircraft	100	100.00
17	STC	Electricals	100	100.00
18	South West	Water	100	100.00
19	MB-Carson	Industrial L-R	100	100.00
20	Tesco	Food	100	100.00
21	McAlpine (a)	Building	100	100.00
22	LAASO	Oil/Gas	100	100.00
23	Kleen-Eze	Industrial E-K	100	100.00
24	JS Pathology	Industrial E-K	100	100.00
25	TIP Europe	Transport	100	100.00
26	Cable Wireless	Electricals	100	100.00
27	QBC	Electricals	100	100.00
28	Markham	Property	100	100.00
29	Lloyds	Banking	100	100.00
30	Site & Event	Chemicals	100	100.00
31	Union Dye	Banking	100	100.00
32	St Petroleum	Oil/Gas	100	100.00
33	Salm Water	Water	100	100.00
34	Nim Foods	Food	100	100.00
35	Br Aemmer	Motor/Aircraft	100	100.00
36	Honda Motor	Motor/Aircraft	100	100.00
37	Barclays	Banking	100	100.00
38	Slough Estates	Property	100	100.00
39	Cater Allen	Banking	100	100.00
40	Ranoch Johnson	Building	100	100.00
41	Hardwood Foods	Food	100	100.00
42	Avon Rubber	Industrial A-D	100	100.00
43	Lowell (V)	Building	100	100.00

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

The £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize was won yesterday by Mr David Peters, of Swindon, Wiltshire.

## BRITISH FUNDS

1990/91	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	Yield		
SHORTS (Under Five Years)									
97%	99%	98%	Trans	9%	1990-08	97%	..	3.0	10.944
96%	98%	97%	Trans	9%	1991-01	96%	..	3.0	11.552
95%	97%	96%	Trans	9%	1991-04	95%	..	3.0	11.552
94%	96%	95%	Trans	9%	1991-07	94%	..	3.0	11.552
93%	95%	94%	Trans	9%	1991-10	93%	..	3.0	11.552
92%	94%	93%	Trans	9%	1992-01	92%	..	3.0	11.552
91%	93%	92%	Trans	9%	1992-04	91%	..	3.0	11.552
90%	92%	91%	Trans	9%	1992-07	90%	..	3.0	11.552
89%	91%	90%	Trans	9%	1992-10	89%	..	3.0	11.552
88%	90%	89%	Trans	9%	1993-01	88%	..	3.0	11.552
87%	89%	88%	Trans	9%	1993-04	87%	..	3.0	11.552
86%	88%	87%	Trans	9%	1993-07	86%	..	3.0	11.552
85%	87%	86%	Trans	9%	1993-10	85%	..	3.0	11.552
84%	86%	85%	Trans	9%	1994-01	84%	..	3.0	11.552
83%	85%	84%	Trans	9%	1994-04	83%	..	3.0	11.552
82%	84%	83%	Trans	9%	1994-07	82%	..	3.0	11.552
81%	83%	82%	Trans	9%	1994-10	81%	..	3.0	11.552
80%	82%	81%	Trans	9%	1995-01	80%	..	3.0	11.552
79%	81%	80%	Trans	9%	1995-04	79%	..	3.0	11.552
78%	80%	79%	Trans	9%	1995-07	78%	..	3.0	11.552
77%	79%	78%	Trans	9%	1995-10	77%	..	3.0	11.552
76%	78%	77%	Trans	9%	1996-01	76%	..	3.0	11.552
75%	77%	76%	Trans	9%	1996-04	75%	..	3.0	11.552
74%	76%	74%	Trans	9%	1996-07	74%	..	3.0	11.552
73%	75%	73%	Trans	9%	1996-10	73%	..	3.0	11.552
72%	74%	72%	Trans	9%	1997-01	72%	..	3.0	11.552
71%	73%	71%	Trans	9%	1997-04	71%	..	3.0	11.552
70%	72%	70%	Trans	9%	1997-07	70%	..	3.0	11.552
69%	71%	69%	Trans	9%	1997-10	69%	..	3.0	11.552
68%	70%	68%	Trans	9%	1998-01	68%	..	3.0	11.552
67%	69%	67%	Trans	9%	1998-04	67%	..	3.0	11.552
66%	68%	66%	Trans	9%	1998-07	66%	..	3.0	11.552
65%	67%	65%	Trans	9%	1998-10	65%	..	3.0	11.552
64%	66%	64%	Trans	9%	1999-01	64%	..	3.0	11.552
63%	65%	63%	Trans	9%	1999-04	63%	..	3.0	11.552
62%	64%	62%	Trans	9%	1999-07	62%	..	3.0	11.552
61%	63%	61%	Trans	9%	1999-10	61%	..	3.0	11.552
60%	62%	60%	Trans	9%	2000-01	60%	..	3.0	11.552
59%	61%	59%	Trans	9%	2000-04	59%	..	3.0	11.552
58%	60%	58%	Trans	9%	2000-07	58%	..	3.0	11.552
57%	59%	57%	Trans	9%	2000-10	57%	..	3.0	11.552
56%	58%	56%	Trans	9%	2001-01	56%	..	3.0	11.552
55%	57%	55%	Trans	9%	2001-04	55%	..	3.0	11.552
54%	56%	54%	Trans	9%	2001-07	54%	..	3.0	11.552
53%	55%	53%	Trans	9%	2001-10	53%	..	3.0	11.552
52%	54%	52%	Trans	9%	2002-01	52%	..	3.0	11.552
51%	53%	51%	Trans	9%	2002-04	51%	..	3.0	11.552
50%	52%	50%	Trans	9%	2002-07	50%	..	3.0	11.552
49%	51%	49%	Trans	9%	2002-10	49%	..	3.0	11.552
48%	50%	48%	Trans	9%	2003-01	48%	..	3.0	11.552
47%	49%	47%	Trans	9%	2003-04	47%	..	3.0	11.552
46%	48%	46%	Trans	9%	2003-07	46%	..	3.0	11.552
45%	47%	45%	Trans	9%	2003-10	45%	..	3.0	11.552
44%	46%	44%	Trans	9%	2004-01	44%	..	3.0	11.552
43%	45%	43%	Trans	9%	2004-04	43%	..	3.0	11.552
42%	44%	42%	Trans	9%	2004-07	42%	..	3.0	11.552
41%	43%	41%	Trans	9%	2004-10	41%	..	3.0	11.552
40%	42%	40%	Trans	9%	2005-01	40%	..	3.0	11.552
39%	41%	39%	Trans	9%	2005-04	39%	..	3.0	11.552
38%	40%	38%	Trans	9%	2005-07	38%	..	3.0	11.552
37%	39%	37%	Trans	9%	2005-10	37%	..	3.0	11.552
36%	38%	36%	Trans	9%	2006-01	36%	..	3.0	11.552
35%	37%	35%	Trans	9%	2006-04	35%	..	3.0	11.552
34%	36%	34%	Trans	9%	2006-07	34%	..	3.0	11.552
33%	35%	33%	Trans	9%	2006-10	33%	..	3.0	11.552
32%	34%	32%	Trans	9%	2007-01	32%	..	3.0	11.552
31%	33%	31%	Trans	9%	2007-04	31%	..	3.0	11.552
30%	32%	30%	Trans	9%	2007-07	30%	..	3.0	11.552
29%	31%	29%	Trans	9%	2007-10	29%	..	3.0	11.552
28%	30%	28%	Trans	9%	2008-01	28%	..	3.0	11.552
27%	29%	27%	Trans	9%	2008-04	27%	..	3.0	11.552
26%	28%	26%	Trans	9%	2008-07	26%	..	3.0	11.552
25%	27%	25%	Trans	9%	2008-10	25%	..	3.0	11.552
24%	26%	24%	Trans	9%	2009-01	24%	..	3.0	11.552
23%	25%	23%	Trans	9%	2009-04	23%	..	3.0	11.552
22%	24%	22%	Trans	9%	2009-07	22%	..	3.0	11.552
21%	23%	21%	Trans	9%	2009-10	21%	..	3.0	11.552
20%	22%	20%	Trans	9%	2010-01	20%	..	3.0	11.552
19%	21%	19%	Trans	9%	2010-04	19%	..	3.0	11.552
18%	20%	18%	Trans	9%	2010-07	18%	..	3.0	11.552
17%	19%	17%	Trans	9%	2010-10	17%	..	3.0	11.552
16%	18%	16%	Trans	9%	2011-01	16%	..	3.0	11.552
15%	17%	15%	Trans	9%	2011-04	15%	..	3.0	11.552
14%	16%	14%	Trans	9%	2011-07	14%	..	3.0	11.552
13%	15%	13%	Trans	9%	2011-10	13%	..	3.0	11.552
12%	14%	12%	Trans	9%	2012-01	12%	..	3.0	11.552
11%	13%	11%	Trans	9%	2012-04	11%	..	3.0	11.552
10%	12%	10%	Trans	9%	2012-07	10%	..	3.0	11.552
9%	11%	9%	Trans	9%	2012-10	9%	..	3.0	11.552
8%	10%	8%	Trans	9%	2013-01	8%	..	3.0	11.552
7%	9%	7%	Trans	9%	2013-04	7%	..	3.0	11.552
6%	8%	6%	Trans	9%	2013-07	6%	..	3.0	11.552
5%	7%	5%	Trans	9%	2013-10	5%	..	3.0	11.552
4%	6%	4%	Trans	9%	2014-01	4%	..	3.0	11.552
3%	5%	3%	Trans	9%	2014-04	3%	..	3.0	11.552
2%	4%	2%	Trans	9%	2014-07	2%	..	3.0	11.552
1%	3%	1%	Trans	9%	2014-10	1%	..	3.0	11.552
0%	2%	0%	Trans	9%	2015-01	0%	..	3.0	11.552
FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS									
100%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
99%	99.00	99.00	99.00	99.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
98%	98.00	98.00	98.00	98.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
97%	97.00	97.00	97.00	97.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
96%	96.00	96.00	96.00	96.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
95%	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
94%	94.00	94.00	94.00	94.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
93%	93.00	93.00	93.00	93.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
92%	92.00	92.00	92.00	92.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
91%	91.00	91.00	91.00	91.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
90%	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
89%	89.00	89.00	89.00	89.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
88%	88.00	88.00	88.00	88.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
87%	87.00	87.00	87.00	87.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
86%	86.00	86.00	86.00	86.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
85%	85.00	85.00	85.00	85.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
84%	84.00	84.00	84.00	84.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
83%	83.00	83.00	83.00	83.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
82%	82.00	82.00	82.00	82.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
81%	81.00	81.00	81.00	81.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
80%	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
79%	79.00	79.00	79.00	79.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
78%	78.00	78.00	78.00	78.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
77%	77.00	77.00	77.00	77.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
76%	76.00	76.00	76.00	76.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
75%	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
74%	74.00	74.00	74.00	74.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
73%	73.00	73.00	73.00	73.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
72%	72.00	72.00	72.00	72.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
71%	71.00	71.00	71.00	71.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
70%	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
69%	69.00	69.00	69.00	69.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
68%	68.00	68.00	68.00	68.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
67%	67.00	67.00	67.00	67.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
66%	66.00	66.00	66.00	66.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
65%	65.00	65.00	65.00	65.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
64%	64.00	64.00	64.00	64.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
63%	63.00	63.00	63.00	63.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
62%	62.00	62.00	62.00	62.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
61%	61.00	61.00	61.00	61.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
60%	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
59%	59.00	59.00	59.00	59.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
58%	58.00	58.00	58.00	58.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
57%	57.00	57.00	57.00	57.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
56%	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
55%	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
54%	54.00	54.00	54.00	54.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
53%	53.00	53.00	53.00	53.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
52%	52.00	52.00	52.00	52.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
51%	51.00	51.00	51.00	51.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
50%	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
49%	49.00	49.00	49.00	49.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
48%	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
47%	47.00	47.00	47.00	47.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
46%	46.00	46.00	46.00	46.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
45%	45.00	45.00	45.00	45.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
44%	44								



## CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

## A STORY

Two little babies were born in 1959. One went to Rugby and University, the other went to Downside and the Guards. They met in an ad agency and decided to start a Software Company. Now they need a young mummy/daddy to look after them. Mummy/daddy must be very bright and must have a small computer and WP. You must like working in Fulham and you will get a child allowance of £8,000, just to be getting on with it!

Mummy/daddy, please send CV, photo and find letter to:

The Times

(La Crème de la Crème May 1984)

Six years later things have changed a bit. I responded to the ad above and became Domark's first employee. Turnover in those days was in the hundreds - and I used to check the cashflow forecast before buying the next batch of postage stamps.

The idea was to publish home computer software. Few people knew what that meant. Mark and Dominic certainly didn't. But somehow we managed to survive and today number 45 on the payroll with another 40 on contract. Our turnover is many millions.

I reckon I've been a damned good "mummy". I'm going to remain a Director within the Group so I'll keep an eye on them, but we need to recruit my replacement.

I can guarantee that it won't be dull. The pace is fairly hectic and you have to be an "all rounder". You'll need excellent PA skills to dispense with the everyday details quickly to allow you to use your common sense to get the boys out of scrapes. You'll share an office with them both, and that helps you keep an eye on things.

If you're interested please send in your CV and I'll arrange an interview (we can then discuss a salary). And good luck - this is no ordinary company!

**IDOMARK**

Lizzie 'The Biz' Wright  
Domark Limited, Ferry House,  
51-57 Lacy Road, Putney,  
London SW15 1PR

Superb career opportunity in Southern Germany

## SECRETARY - P/A

£19,000 p.a. equivalent + travel allowance + relocation package

to British senior partner of international training and management consultancy.

You enjoy challenge & responsibility and would like to develop your career through the management of exciting, international projects. You possess usual office skills, speak good to excellent German, and believe that a sense of humour is an important part of serious business. Please send full c.v. to P&A GmbH, Ringstr. 16, D-8949 Kirchheim-Deindorf, Germany. Or call Birgit Müller, Tel: 010 49 822 66 1071 Fax: 010 49 822 66 618.

## DOES THE JOB YOU WANT CONTINUALLY ELUDE YOU?

MIGHT THE EXPLANATION LIE WITHIN YOURSELF?

If you would like to know about the highly entertaining, inexpensive, evening-and-weekend 'Insight Seminar', to be held in the West End on 13-18 Feb, that can radically improve your life, work-wise and socially call 071 706 2821. Or, come to the free introductory evening at:

Columbia Hotel, Lancaster Gate, W2 on the 28 January at 7.15pm.

YOU WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED!

Insight Seminars, 37 Spring Street, London W2

## Bi-Lingual in Property

£16,000

Are you a confident unflappable Secretary/Office Manager with a flair for organization and fluent French? If so, three charming Directors would welcome your assistance working with them at the centre of operations in this small but successful property company you will enjoy variety and responsibility, handling all aspects of office administration along with usual secretarial duties. WP skills, very shorthand, excellent presentation, warm outgoing nature and professional telephone manner all appreciated! Please call 071-493 0713.

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION

**MERRYWEATHER**

## RECRUITMENT OPEN DAY AT THE WALDORF HOTEL

Wednesday 30 Jan 1991  
11.00 a.m. till 6.00 p.m.

We are holding an open day for three of our clients looking for secretaries.

## FOREIGN &amp; COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

100 wpm Shorthand.  
Overseas postings.  
£11,340

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT  
Good Audio typing.  
£10,978 - £12,865

FRESHFIELDS SOLICITORS  
Good Audio. Legal training provided.  
£12,000 - £13,000

If you possess the required skills and would like to meet these Personnel Officers direct, please join us and bring several copies of your CV.

If you have any questions, ring Charlotte on: 071 408 0424

**Tate**  
APPOINTMENTS

## PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO MANAGING DIRECTOR

The Whyte Chemicals Group, an important distributor and manufacturer of chemicals to the industry in the UK, requires a person to fill the above post on contract for 9 months to 1 year.

Apart from the obvious secretarial skills, essentially you will need to be very commercial and able to deal with suppliers and customers internationally. You will have a strong personality, be concise and clear minded and be able to play a significant role in our executive team. You could well have a science background and some financial and/or shipping experience.

In return we will provide you with an exciting and challenging environment, an excellent salary and benefits package and high tech working conditions in our modern Finchley offices.

CV, marked confidential to:

Colin Harris  
Whyte Chemicals Ltd  
Greyhound House  
322 Regent Park Road,  
Finchley, N3 2UA

## SECRETARY TO 2 DIRECTORS &amp; 1 SURVEYOR

The City Office of Herring Son & Daw PLC, Chartered Surveyors

require a secretary. Audio typing, WP skills some shorthand an advantage.

£15,000 + bonus + benefits. Please apply in writing with CV to:

Cindy Griffin, Personnel Manager,  
Herring Son & Daw,  
26/28 Sackville Street,  
London W1X 2QL or  
telephone 071-734 8155

## KNIGHTSBRIDGE PA £18,000

The Managing Director of this small highly professional management company seeks a competent, socially confident P.A. with skills of 90/60 to support his busy life. You will need excellent secretarial skills, a good understanding of PR and Marketing, and be able to handle a variety of situations with tact and discretion. If you are between 25-35 and are seeking a responsible secretarial position, then contact us now for further details.

## JUDY FISHER

ASSOCIATES  
071-437 2277  
Recruitment Consultants

## DESIGN CONSCIOUS OFFICE MANAGER/ADMINISTRATOR

A young expanding Structural Engineering Practice, based in Islington, with clients ranging from established Developers to exciting new Architects and Designers, need a forward thinking administrator.

To work primarily for the two Senior Partners, the position involves general admin duties and office organization, maintaining PR and Marketing, and acting as Personal Assistant. You must be bright, enthusiastic, energetic and well organized. Suitable candidates would have good secretarial training with an understanding of PR and Management roles from a similar architectural or design background.

Salary negotiable £16,000 - £18,000 + exp.

Please call Joanna Scott on 071-489 9541, no agencies please.

## KNIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES

## HEAD FOR SUCCESS! W1. £16,000

Popular Director of this International Headhunting firm needs a secretary to organize his busy office and diary. You must have the ability to laugh in the face of tight deadlines as well as look after selected projects in your own right.

Organize priorities for long term clients, collect family from airport and some running about hence the car.

50 wpm, hours can be unusual, (40 yrs+).

Call 071 434 0030.

Call Sally O'Brien on 071 235 9427

Knightsbridge Secretaries 31A St James Street, LONDON SW1

No Agencies

PA/OFFICE MANAGER

£14,000 - WC2

Interior design Co have a vacancy for an exp PA/Office Manager, aged 22-35.

Enthusiasm, good organizational skills/typing, with a knowledge of basic book-keeping and marketing?

Please write or fax on 071-636 3679 with full CV, to: Regan & Dean, 43 South Molton Street, London W1W 8PL.

No Agencies

£15k KNIGHTSBRIDGE

EXC. PA/SEC required for HIGH PROF. INT'L GROUP

SUPERB YOUNG PROF. DIRECTOR

PRESTIGIOUS LOCATION GOOD AUDIO/SH. NOT ESS. WORDPROCESSING

SMART APPEARANCE PLEASANT PERSONALITY WELL ORGANISED MIND

LOMBARD RECRUITMENT Tel 071 638 1295

## ROYAL HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION OFFICER

The Department of the Private Secretary to The Queen requires an Information Officer to work in the Press Office at Buckingham Palace.

This interesting post requires an individual working as a member of the Press Office team who is able to deal with a wide range of press and broadcasting enquiries both on the telephone and face to face. Candidates should also be computer literate, well versed in the use of word processors in an office environment, with accurate shorthand and typing. The post may involve some travel.

Applicant should have a good grasp of current affairs and at least five years' experience of dealing with the writing and/or broadcasting media. The starting salary is in the region of £14,630 including London weighting, and the post is pensionable with 22 days holiday a year.

Please apply with CV to

The Chief Clerk,  
Private Secretary's Office  
Buckingham Palace  
London SW1A 1AA

## Japan Airlines

## Secretary for Advertising/Sales Promotion Department (European Headquarters Office)

Based in the West End, this small but busy office deals with European advertising and sales promotion. Applicants must have at least 80 wpm shorthand, 50 wpm typing and DW4 experience. Good written and spoken English essential.

Salary £11,300, travel concessions, contributory pension and health care schemes.

Please send CV and daytime telephone number to:

Japan Airlines DBK/TT  
Hanover Court, 5 Hanover Square,  
London W1R 0DR.  
NO AGENCIES

**JAL**  
Japan Airlines

## Sales Administrator c £15,000

An excellent opening exists for a Sales Administrator. You'll have first rate administration skills coupled with a strong sales ability. Keyboard skills essential. Definite scope to use your initiative and to progress with the opportunity to relocate to Kent in April 1991.

## Executive Secretary c £14,500

Enjoy the variety of working for three management consultants within this prestigious firm. Your excellent communication skills will enable you to liaise at all levels. You'll be working at executive level providing a full secretarial and administrative role. 'A' levels preferred. Age 20+.

To discuss these or other career options contact Terry O'Neill or Caroline Rogers on 071 629 7262

**SECRETARIAL**  
APPOINTMENTS  
7 PRINCES STREET LONDON W1  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

## Personnel Secretary £14,000 + banking bens

The Personnel Manager of an investment bank near St. Paul's seeks a charming and hardworking secretary to assist her. Experience in a Personnel Department, the ability to deal with their pay-roll, contracts and liaise comfortably at all levels are essential. Good prospects for a dedicated secretary with high standards to progress to a more administrative role in time. Multitasker or DW4 an advantage. Generous benefits include mortgage subsidy, paid overtime and bonus. Age mid-20s. Please call Melanie Hill on 071-256 5018.

**HOBSTONES**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## The MAC Group (UK) Ltd TWO VACANCIES

We are looking for two mature Desktop Publishing Operators to join our hectic Production Department. The successful candidates will be well educated and aged 20-35 years and have some relevant experience although full training will be given on our existing interleaf system. Equally important is the ability to work to very tight deadlines, be able to cope with pressure and to play a major role within a very hardworking but friendly team. Availability for overtime work is essential.

Medical insurance available. Good salary + paid overtime and bonus package.

If you feel you would fit into our company and have the necessary background please send your CV to:

Foy Primarolo, The MAC Group (UK) Ltd  
22 Grafton Street, London W1X 3LD

(No Agencies)

EXEC PA SEC

£16,000 + CAR + BENS

Our client, an international company seek a PA aged 40-50 with good organizational/administrative skills and speeds of 100/60. Candidates must have a flexible manner and be prepared to commit themselves to this exciting and varied role. A stable work background with a knowledge of Middle Eastern customs would be an advantage. Ref:1/979.

CALL 071 251 2081

Keystone Recruitment

REGAN & DEAN

PA - TOP AD AGENCY

Advertising experience is not necessary for this management post. They will need a sense of humour, a good secretarial background, 50wpm shorthand and 90wpm typing in corporate and city.

Age up to 25, £14,000 p.a. plus benefits.

Regan & Dean Recruitment, 43 South Molton St. London W1.

Tel: 071 489 3264.

## PRS

## PRS CONSULTING INTERNATIONAL LTD PA TO EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

An exciting opportunity exists for the right person to join a leading information services company with offices in London, Frankfurt, Detroit and Tokyo. As PA to the two senior executives the job is varied and carries considerable responsibility. Successful candidate must possess good administrative skills, be able to work under pressure, show initiative and have a sense of humour. Experience essential.

Good secretarial skills including wordprocessing are essential. A second language would be useful. Responsibilities include the management of the company's travel requirements.

Competitive salary offered.

Please apply with full CV to:

Karen Spence  
Personnel Officer  
PRS Consulting International Ltd  
100 Hutton Garden  
London EC1N 8NX  
Tel: 071 430 9265

## TEAM SECRETARY

## MEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS

£14,000 + profit share + health scheme

Are you efficient, quick-thinking and bright? We need a secretary to join our forward-looking, enthusiastic and friendly medical communications team. With at least 2 years' previous experience, you will be used to working under pressure, able to use your own initiative and not frightened by hard work. WP skills essential - ideally Wang.

Write enclosing CV to:  
Judy Rothberg  
Medical Communications  
40-42 Chancery Street  
LONDON W1P 3ND  
Telephone: 071-463 8366

## DRAKE PERSONNEL

## ROOM WITH A VIEW £16,000

Extensive client contact, beautiful surroundings and the opportunity to develop your role to the full when you assist the dynamic company secretary within this successful and diverse organisation. Shorthand secretarial talents coupled with your professionalism will secure your future.

For an immediate interview call Katherine Pooley on 071-734 0911.

## Bright, young secretary

required by a small, busy Surveyors practice in Bond Street to work for two partners. Audio and IBM W.P. experience essential. We require a good organiser to manage the office. Salary according to experience. Please reply with C.V. to Amanda Harrison, 98 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9LF.

"Social Secretary/Public Relations person sought to join a fine luxury orientated company dedicated to the building of image and personality. Age 25-35 must have previous experience. Sensible salary and other benefits.

Please reply in writing enclosing a C.V. to Box No. 2589.

## Stockley Park

£14,000 + bens

Leading International company relocating to luxury new offices, require a senior secretary to support a divisional manager. You will be organizing meetings and travel, co-ordinating the work of two other secretaries and producing reports and presentations. Knowledge of computer graphics useful. Age 25-28, skills 90/60/WP.

Please telephone Jocky Purcell on 071-434 4512.

Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Wordperfect?

£16,000

Age 20-24

Premier Banking Institution in West End needs a socially poised, A-Level calibre Secretary to work in successful Fund Management Division. High standards, team spirit and the desire to learn and progress are all necessary qualities. Shorthand OR audio typing, and Wordperfect 5.1 essential. Financial experience not necessary.

Please telephone Lindsey Brandon on 071-434 4512.

Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Full of Beans?

£14,500 + bens

5 weeks' hols

Expanding firm of coffee brokers based in the Docklands, urgently requires a secretary with a blend of skills to assist their young and dynamic Financial Director. Manage his diary, filter his calls, organize meetings and constantly chase operating companies in the coffee rich lands of South America. There are numerous deadlines and instant decisions, so you will always be busy. Financial experience will make you the hot favourite! Lots of sympathy and a Hispanic language useful, but not essential. Skills 80/65/WP. Age 25-30. Please call Esther Marsden on 071-256 5018.

**HOBSTONES**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## PA/ MARKETING SECRETARY FOR SENIOR PARTNER

Senior Partner of City based property/construction consultancy seeks experienced PA to organize his challenging workload and the company marketing drive. Extensive experience at senior level and in marketing essential plus excellent shorthand & WP skills (min 100/70). Enthusiasm, flexibility, initiative, ability to thrive under pressure and sense of humour, all vital. Non-smokers only. Preferred age 25-35. First class conditions and benefits.

Please telephone or send c.v. to:

Annabelle Lawrence  
AYH Partnership  
40 Clifton Street  
LONDON EC2A 4AY  
Tel: 071-377 6666

## LEGAL SECRETARIES

£16,000 ++

Our clients are looking for highly experienced company and commercial, or commercial litigation secretaries who have worked at partner level and have solid experience within well known firms. Superb working conditions include bonus, 4 weeks holiday, season ticket loan and lunch allowance.

Please call Oana Legal on 071 379 4002 or Fax CV on 071 379 4844

## ADMINISTRATOR/SECRETARY

£13k + MORT SUB (kg worth £15,500++)

ORGANISER INVESTMENT MNGR. TRAINING COURSES

EXTENSIVE ADMIN - MIN. SEC. SUPP. 60/80wpm

LOMBARD RECRUITMENT

Tel 071 638 1295

## ADMIN SECRETARY

Education Dept

for medical research charity in W1. You will be part of a young team advising the public and medical professions of the research charity's work.

Publications, proposals, workshops and conferences. You will provide a full secretarial service (many of them and experience with Wordperfect is essential). As a team member you will be fully involved in a wide variety of work.

Applications are invited from candidates, early 30s, with experience in secretarial, research and education. Salary £13,500 p.a. (negotiable) on 10/60 and excellent benefits. Send CV to: Mary's Executive Selection, Premier House, 10 Grosvenor Place, London SW1P 1SE.

PR DESIGN COMPANY

Moving to New Kings Road

Brilliant opportunity for intelligent young secretary. Good WP/organisational skills to work with lively team.

Write with CV to: Linda Smith, Shirley Wyle & Associates, 253 Woodhouse Grove, London W11 2BS

Acton LINES

Indica daily new vacancies temp & perm from top agencies

West End 0836 405384

City 0836 485384

also fax update (plus cheap, 40p offer)

Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Min Sec

Publishing

£13,000

Editorial Assistant required for a well known publishing group based in W1. Working as part of a small team who specialise in medical publications, your varied responsibilities will include liaising with editors, handling potential articles, following up references and some secretarial support. No shorthand, just 45wpm typing; publishing or medical experience an asset. Age 22-35. Please call Samantha Brander on 071-437 6052.

HOBSTONES

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

SENIOR PA WITH GERMAN

£20,000 + BANK BENS

An exceptional right-hand role for a published PA (LANGUAGES SHORTHAND) and (ideally) Financial Director.

Contact Tessa Madridge on 071 588 7287

Joanna Rowe Secretaries, 11 Blenheim Street, EC2

A member of The Blenheim Group

SENIOR PA WITH GERMAN

£20,000 + BANK BENS

SENIOR PA WITH GERMAN

£20,000 + BANK BENS

SENIOR PA WITH GERMAN

£20,000 + BANK BENS

SENIOR PA WITH GERMAN

£20,000 + BANK BENS

SENIOR PA WITH GERMAN











## 7

**EAST ANGLIA**

**WOLFPOLE** Grounds area. Late Georgian house, interior pool, 6. Cattle & sheep pens, 3 barns, mature ferns. £250,000. Tel: 0603 713214.

**WOLFPOLE**, Amington, Georgian semi-£50,000 & 5 beds 2 vegs. Cattle & sheep pens, 3 barns. Contacting area 0778211226.

**CHERRY** a meadow and meadow surrounded ground 10 flr, situated in wrenner 10. beautiful historic site. 10 flr, over the Rose and Cherry race course. 5 bedrooms. 1000 sq. ft. South East. Furnace. £225,000. T. 01952 650000. Daytime 01978 2907. Evening 0244 650007.

**CUMBRIA** Five country r, glen, quiet village. West of 1350 A66 in 3 miles, 2500 ft. of Lida District. 30 miles from 1350 A66 in 3 miles, 2500 ft. 0695 673312.

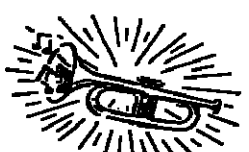


## RENTALS

## AN ATTRACTIVE OFFER YOU CAN SLEEP, EAT, DRINK AND GO OUT ON.



The companies who rent unfurnished residential accommodation at the Barbican certainly have a choice of ways to celebrate. That's the beauty of living in the heart of the City - you're simply spoilt for choice.



So, whether your particular taste is in Chinatown, Theatreland or a relaxing night at home, be sure you're aware of just what we're offering. Call the Barbican Estate Office on 071 588 8110 or 071 628 4372.

Rents from £7,565 pa to £14,440 pa.

**BARBICAN**

## POLITI &amp; CO

071 439 1188

ST GEORGES SQ (SW1)

Spacious well furnished 1 bed 1 bath flat with balcony. 210sq ft. Call for details. 071 439 1188.

WIGMORE ST W1. Spacious 1 bed 1 bath flat with balcony. 210sq ft. Call for details. 071 439 1188.

MAVER PLACE W14. Newly refurbished 1 bed 1 bath flat. 210sq ft. Call for details. 071 439 1188.

AMERICAN Bank urgently need cash/borrow. 1/2% rate. 0200-0000. 071 581 3622.

## NESTER

TERRACE, KEW

Brand New Terraced House

4 beds, 3 baths, 2 reception, garden, garage. 081 9404555

AMERICAN Bank urgently need cash/borrow. 1/2% rate. 0200-0000. 071 581 3622.

AMERICAN Bank urgently need cash/borrow. 1/2% rate. 0200-0000. 071 581 3622.

AMERICAN Bank urgently need cash/borrow. 1/2% rate. 0200-0000. 071 581 3622.

## COUNTRY PROPERTY

## NORTH WEST

## LANCS/YORKSHIRE BORDER

Large stone house in 7 acres of land. 210sq ft. Call for details. 071 439 1188.

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## SURREY

## GRAYSHOTT CENTRE

Guide £215,000

Spacious Victorian house, 11 acres, 100 ft. Call for details. 071 439 1188.

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## E. SUSSEX

11000 sq ft, 11000 sq ft, 11000 sq ft. Call for details. 071 439 1188.

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# Survival of the fittest

The Balmoral Hotel in Edinburgh, the former North British and one of Britain's great railway hotels, reopens next month after a £23 million refurbishment that restores it as a five-star hotel, the flagship of Balmoral International Hotels.

The hotel, designed by W. Hamilton Beattie and A.R. Scott, was completed in 1902. Norfolk Capital Hotels decided on total modernisation while it still owned the hotel in 1988. Ownership has changed twice since then.

Externally, the sandstone has been cleaned and replaced where necessary, and the interior has been restored to its original Scottish baronial style.

Balmoral International Hotels is due to begin the refurbishment of The Old Swan, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, to five-star status. The group is boosting an industry that has suffered as much as other property sectors.

Knight Frank & Rutley says the hotel market is likely to face continuing difficult times, thanks to prevailing high interest rates and declining business confidence. The number of hotels being sold by the receiver is almost certainly due to the overheated market of the Eighties.

Knight Frank & Rutley believes the lack of experience in hotel operating by some buyers, leading to a lack of reinvestment and falling standards, has caused the present problems. The agent argues, however, that for the traditional hotelier the market

As some hotels struggle through the recession, Christopher Warman finds a property group that is giving the industry a welcome boost



Pride of Edinburgh: the Balmoral Hotel towers over Princes Street

remains active. "A good-quality hotel will always find a purchaser, but turnover and condition are now more significant than ever."

The failed and failing companies include some fashionable businesses, including Barrow Hotels & Leisure, which collapsed suddenly, putting 21 hotels into receivership.

The big corporate groups have continued to be active. Trusthouse Forte, for example, bought the 43 Crest Hotels from Bass for £300 million, and Bass intends to invest £526 million in hotel expansion in the next three years.

Bruce Williamson, the chief executive of Druce Hotels &

Leisure International, concludes that the depression is the "direct result of a period of too much dealing at too high prices, when little attention was paid actually to running a business."

He adds: "Survival of the fittest has taken on a new meaning. It is the companies with top-quality management skills and the financial resources to support their continuing development that have been able to capitalise on others' deplorable managerial ability."

He believes long-term prospects are excellent, although he admits that in the short term the industry depends on the banks, which have been increasingly cautious.

Brodie Marshall Hotels, a specialist agent and valuer to the industry, says controlled expansion is the key to growth and now is the best time for at least four years to acquire a business.

Brodie Marshall Hotels suggests that only hotel owners who can convince prospective purchasers that the property can pay its way, or who have to sell, should go to the market this year. The most likely properties to sell are those with a sound trading record and a realistic asking price.

Amid the gloom, the Swallow Hotel group has recently opened its latest hotel, in Birmingham, converted from a six-storey commercial block, which was the former headquarters of Tube Investments. The new 98-bedroom Swallow Hotel has been transformed from the old 1959 building at a cost of £15 million and is the city's first five-star hotel.

## IN THE MARKET

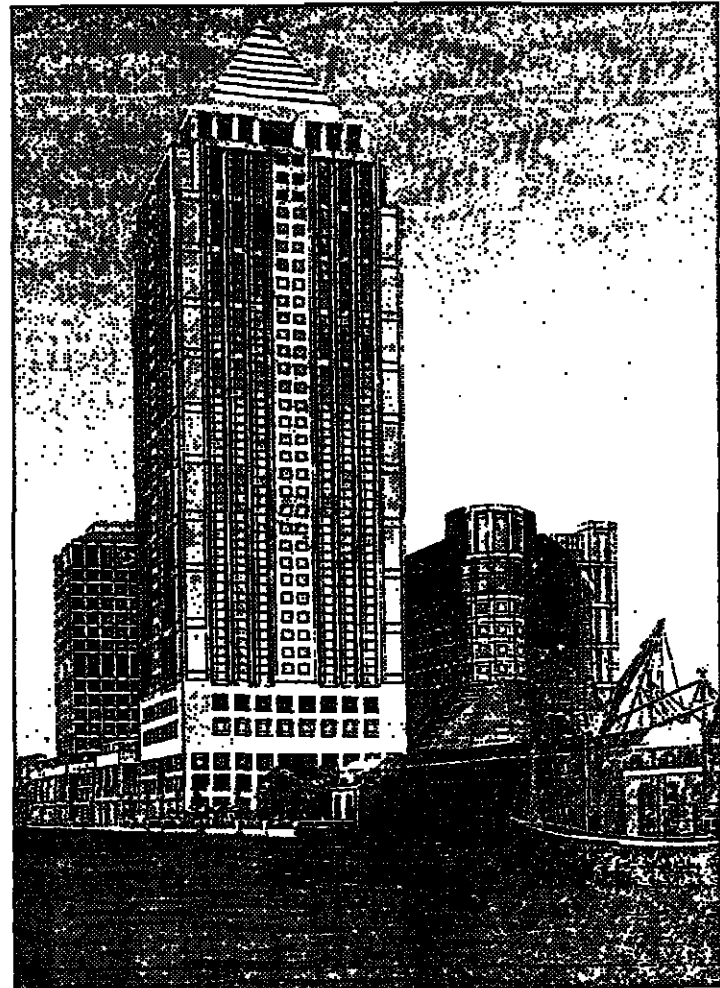
### Entente at farmers' HQ

THE biggest commitment to the London commercial property market by a French institution has been made by a subsidiary of Crédit Foncier de France, which has joined London & Edinburgh Trust (LET) in a joint venture to redevelop Agriculture House, Knightsbridge, the headquarters in London of the National Farmers Union.

It is also the first joint venture on such a scale between a French institution and a British property company, Richard Ellis, the agent, says. LET has submitted a planning application to demolish the existing building, replacing it with two adjoining office buildings of 25,000 sq ft and 66,000 sq ft, and three residential units at the rear, designed by Hunter & Partners. The union will occupy the smaller building and retain the site freehold.

The Old Town Hall and annexe at Falmouth, Cornwall, a 19th-century listed building, is to be sold through Scott-Burnidge Commercial, of Falmouth, and Knight Frank & Rutley. The price is £550,000. The building contains about 4,500 sq ft of space on three floors that could provide a restaurant or similar facility, and other office space.

Asahi Urban Development Corporation has bought Mutual House, in Regent Street, central London, from ARC Property Developments, a subsidiary of ARC Properties, for about £20 million. The Grade II listed building is being refurbished and will provide 8,300 sq ft of shops and 19,600 sq ft of offices. Savills, the agent, with its marketing, the building with Edward Erdman, says Asahi's decision to buy reflects the corporation's confidence in the future of Regent Street.



Plans for Britain's biggest hotel, 35 storeys and 528ft high, on the Isle of Dogs in London Docklands, have been submitted by Wetherby, an international investment and development corporation. The £350 million project includes offices and shops, as well as the 592-bedroom hotel with conference and banqueting facilities. If the scheme is approved, work will start this year and take five years. The hotel will stand opposite Canary Wharf, complementing its design.

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## RUGBY UNION

# Saunders will sit out Cup match before Irish debut

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

ROB Saunders, appointed captain of Ireland for his first international appearance, against France at Lansdowne Road on February 2, will stand down from the London Irish side to play Rugby in the fourth round of the Pilkington Cup on Saturday.

It is traditional for international debutants to rest the weekend before but Saunders's play at scrum half has been a vital part of the Exiles' success this season and the decision cannot have been easy. Simon Goughan, the London Irish wing, who also wins a first cap against France, will play to test a groin strain, while Ricky Stewart will take over at scrum half.

Leicester, Cup favourites after defeating Bath, are at strength for their match with Wasps. Leicester have Dean Richards and Rory Underwood back from international duty and Underwood's brother, Tony, occupies the other wing. It remains to be seen whether Tony Underwood's duties as secretary to Cambridge University Rugby Club for the coming year (Adrian Davies, the Welsh stand-off half, will captain Cambridge) will permit him to appear regularly for Leicester.

Bristol will not name the XV to play Moseley in the Cup until the day. "We have lots of new personnel and are changing our way of playing, so they won't know quite what to expect," Rob Cunningham, the Bristol coach, said.

Gloucester gave Jerry Perrins his Cup debut on the wing against Harlequins and recall Richard Pascall to the front row of a pack which has Mike Teague, try-scorer for England against Wales, at No. 8.

Simon Halliday will partner Will Carling in the centre for Harlequins and Richard Langford takes over at No. 8, Chris Butcher having just resumed training.

Halliday, whose last spell with Harlequins was in 1980-1, has now played in three games (two for the Wanderers), since returning to the club and is confident that his ankle operation in August has been a success.

Two tries each by David Stock, the No. 8, and Mark Davies, the right wing, helped Royal Free beat St George's 24-6 in the first round of the Hospitals Cup at Enfield yesterday. They play St Mary's, the holders, in the quarter-finals on the same ground next Tuesday.

## England's uphill task

THE Australian schoolboys complete their tour at Twickenham today when they play England's 18-group side (David Hands writes). They are on target to become the fourth successive party from their country to leave Britain unbeaten.

That would be a marvellous record, particularly in view of some appalling weather and variations in age and experience of the opposition. Their 6-3 win over Harlequins under-21 on Sunday, for example, was a considerable achievement.

Their prospect of adding

England to their scalps is good. It will be the first time England have played together, whereas the Australians have been on tour for six weeks; they have lost Polla-Mount, their captain, with a neck injury, and Ghattas leads the side today from prop.

England, with a strong front row, are likely to contest possession well but may not be able to use it as successfully as the Australian backs. The Australians lost kit and souvenirs when their coach was robbed in Cardiff at the weekend, but their record may not go so easily.

## Leading athletes plan to cash in on their fame

IAN STEWART



Birds of a feather: Regis, Whitbread and Christie are preparing to collect nest-eggs for their sporting retirement

## The name of the game is money

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

HAD someone really wanted to upset England's rugby union players, they could have reserved their seats in the Colston Room of Francis House in London yesterday. There, at the headquarters of the Women's Amateur Athletic Association - amateur please note - a new club was launched. Its purpose, in the words of Whitbread, is "to feather our nests for when we won't be competing".

There were other more vague reasons given for starting Chafford Hundred Athletic Club with an elite membership of Whitbread, Lindford Christie, John Regis, Colin Jackson, Steve Backley and Mick Hill, but its *raison d'être* was clear. What does it matter that the

Essex town has no track when the aim is to squeeze as much money as possible from industry by selling the names and services of world and European champions?

And all with the blessing of the British Amateur - that word keeps cropping up and is still a favourite with the international federation - Athletic Board. "It is an intelligent move and I do not think any of us have any objection," Tony Ward, the board's spokesman, said.

While the Rugby Football Union keeps its players guessing as to its interpretation of the relaxed amateur regulations, the athletes have formed a self-help group designed to dig deeper into the seam of commerce - sponsorship and promotions for example - while Will Carling et al wait for the RFU to allow them the use of picks and

shovels. After all, not every athlete can turn to politics when his competitive career is over.

"The commercial activities of the club and its members will provide sufficient monies, through the sale of individual trust funds, to cover the period when they are no longer involved as competing athletes and embarking upon a new career," Whitbread said.

Promises were made to assist junior development and help raise money for charity, but the sponsorship deals which Whitbread said would be secured within six weeks would be primarily for the benefit of the Chafford Hundred athletes. How much will a sponsor have to pay? "As much as we can get," Christie said. Would it be a six-figure sum? He seemed to like the sound of that, and Whitbread nodded.

That would be for a two-year agreement, with a third-year option, in return for which the sponsor's name would be emblazoned on the black and yellow club strip. It will mostly be worn at grand prix meetings. The athletes are not leaving their present clubs and will compete in Chafford Hundred colours only when not representing them or their country.

## SPORT FOR THE DISABLED

## Preparations going well for British Paralympic skiers

By JANE WYATT

THE British alpine ski team has surprised even itself, according to the acting team manager, Brian Harding, with some impressive results in the Swiss championships in Sedrun. Harding, from Southampton, took the silver medal in the ski-bob class of the downhill and his team colleague, Alan Pettigrew, from Crowthorne, Berkshire, was placed fourth.

The best performance, though, came from a Yecivil man, Richard Burt, a partially sighted skier who beat off stiff competition to win the downhill in his classification section. This represents a tremendous achievement in championships, which attracted about 100 skiers from all over Europe and from across the disability groups.

The championships were run according to the rules of the Federation of International Skiers (FIS), so that the number of gates, the angle of the slope and all other technical specifications were identical to those in an able-bodied event. This made it the hardest downhill course that Harding, for once, had ever experienced, underlining the achievement of the nine-man British team.

The Swiss event was just one of several this season which will provide training and snow experience for those hoping to form part of the British Paralympic ski team. Several skiers will be competing in the French and German championships next month. Others will be travelling to North America for the Canadian and American games at the end of March and beginning of April respectively.

The final choice for the Paralympic team will be made during a late-summer training camp at a location to be decided. In the meantime, interviews will be held to find a replacement for the previous team manager, Andy Toomy, who resigned at the end of last year. Harding and Hubert Sturgeon are joint temporary team managers.

Harding, however, would like to concentrate on his own training, and hopes to achieve between ten and 12 weeks on the snow this year.

Part of that experience will be gained by attending a course for alpine coaches in Austria next month, run by the English Ski Council. It will be the first time a paraplegic has been included on such a course.

## BRIDGE

## Welsh outplayed in international

By ALBERT DORMER

ENGLAND opened the home international series in great style last weekend, when they beat Wales decisively at the young Chelsea Bridge Club in London, while Scotland and Ireland were blunting one another's attacks at Troon.

The England team included Graham Kirby and John Armstrong, who will be in Britain's team in the European championships. They were ably supported by Howard Melbourne, making their first appearance, and Sally Horton with Steve Lodge.

Their margin over a Welsh team spearheaded by Patrick Jordanian with Adrian Thomas, and Peter Goodman with Filip Kurbalija, their most regular foursome over the past few years, was 69-15. The England selectors would have been delighted with their debutants' performance, and the whole team would have been pleased with the way that they outplayed the Welsh in all departments of the game.

The Scotland v Ireland match finished in a narrow win for the home team; Scotland won the first two matches, but a late surge by Ireland in the third nearly allowed them to overtake Scotland in the finishing stretch. Sixteen of the world's leading pairs can be seen in play tomorrow and on Friday this week in the Sunday Times invitation pairs contest. The event is staged at the Hyde Park Hotel in London with excellent viewing facilities. For further details, call Irvine Rose on 071 930 1193.

An encouraging omen for the English supporters is the performance of last year's winners of this event, Tony Forrester and Andrew Robson, of Britain. They proved their form in the Staines Bank tournament in The Netherlands last weekend, although having led for a long time, they were overtaken on the last round by Gorozen and Eisenberg, of the United States, who will also be playing in the Sunday Times event.

## Queen's Bench Divisional Court

## Law Report January 23 1991

## Court of Appeal

## Minister erred in concealing documents

Regina v Secretary of State for Health, Ex parte Gandhi Before Lord Justice Taylor and Mr Justice Morland (Judgment December 21)

An allegation of racial discrimination in an appeal to the secretary of state against the refusal of a medical practices committee to select the applicant for an appointment as a general practitioner was not to be treated as a mere issue of fact by the secretary of state under no duty to pronounce separately or grant specific redress in respect of it.

How, since it was unlawful for the medical practices committee to discriminate on racial grounds the same applied on appeal to the secretary of state and therefore the issue had to be considered in the appeal and decisions based on racial grounds rejected although a decision which was sound on free of its racial element could be allowed to stand.

An oral hearing was not a prerequisite but the appellant was entitled to disclosure of all material necessary to enable him to present his appeal and answer points made against him. Reports of a family practitioner committee and medical practices committee seen by the secretary of state could be shown except where public interest immunity or the overriding interests of third party confidentiality prevailed.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held when refusing the applicant, Dr Anil Gandhi, judicial review of the refusal by the secretary of state of his appeal, *inter alia*, from the rejection by the medical practices committee of his applications for appointment to practices in the Brent and Harrow areas.

The court, however, made a declaration of procedural impropriety by the secretary of state in failing to disclose documents, to wit, a report of the family practitioner committee and letters between that committee and the medical practices committee.

Mr Robin Allen and Mr Anthony Bradley for the applicant; Mr David Pannick for the Secretary of State for Health; Mr Nicholas Underhill for the medical practices committee and the family practitioner committee.

of a younger female doctor. In the second, the family practitioner committee wished to retain a surgery at the premises of the retiring doctor although it had been decided to disperse the practice in his list among local practices.

In both cases his appeals to the secretary of state were refused without an oral hearing. Believing he was a victim of racial discrimination, in October 1989 he commenced an application for leave to apply for judicial review.

The National Health Service Act 1977 created medical practices committees and authorised the establishment by the secretary of state of family practitioner committees whose duty was to arrange general medical services in their areas.

Where there was more than one applicant for a vacancy in a medical practices committee could by section 33(3) make its selection after consultation with the family practitioner committee and any local medical committee.

Regulation 7 of the National Health Service (General Medical and Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations (SI 1974 No 160) dealt with applications to an applicant for a vacancy in a medical practices committee should be shown except where public interest immunity or the overriding interests of third party confidentiality prevailed.

On an appeal under regulation 12, where the secretary of state had refused to grant an oral hearing was not necessary he might deal with the matter summarily, otherwise provision was made for the holding of an oral hearing.

Section 12 of the Race Relations Act 1976 made it unlawful for a body providing authorisation or qualification needed for engagement in a particular profession to discriminate against someone on racial grounds.

Mr Allen argued that because complaint to an industrial tribunal was excluded by section 54(2) of the 1976 Act, because an appeal could be brought under the 1976 Act, the secretary of state was specifically required to determine the complaint under section 12 or there was no remedy.

His Lordship said that had it been the intention of Parliament for the appellate body to deal with the complaint of discrimination as a discrete issue, specific words to that effect would have been used. Instead the subsection simply excluded reference of the complaint to an industrial tribunal. Soldiers were similarly excluded but their complaints of discrimination were to be dealt with under section 180 or 181 of the Army Act 1955 as complaints under the 1976 Act. *R v Army Board of the Defence Council, Ex parte Anderson* (The Times November 27, 1990).

It might be inconsistent that there was no provision for enforcement provisions analogous to those otherwise available in the employment field but Parliament might have considered that it was sufficient that the appellate body should be able to redress any injustice by allowing an appeal, thereby granting the rejected applicant.

There did not appear to be any power under which the secretary of state could make an award of compensation. The secretary of state's function was not to determine whether the complainant's rights had been breached and grant redress but to consider whether the decision of the medical practices committee was properly made so as to provide the best available medical services.

It was essentially an administrative function concerned with the public interest rather than private rights. He was required to do no more than determine the appeal.

In his Lordship's judgment, since section 12 made it unlawful for the medical practices committee to discriminate on racial grounds the same law applied on appeal. Although the medical practices committee should stand by how, if at all, was his duty affected when the appeal was coupled with an allegation of racial discrimination?

Mr Allen contended that in addition to determining the appeal the secretary of state had to consider and determine the complaint of racial discrimination and that section 54(2) of the 1976 Act gave the appellate body the same duty as an industrial tribunal under section 54(1).

It was not realistic in an international credit transaction in the UK to identify the place of performance of a reimbursement obligation by applying any general rule.

Mr Justice Phillips so held in *Commercial Bank of India v Central Bank of India* (The Times January 23, 1991).

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Under the 1974 regulations the test for whether an oral hearing should be held was clear and was a matter for the discretion of the secretary of state.

His Lordship accepted that some appeals where race or sex discrimination was alleged might well require an oral hearing but was far from accepting that whenever there was a claim of discrimination an oral hearing was obligatory.

The requirements of such a hearing laid down by the regulations made it an onerous and expensive exercise. It was drawn to the attention of the court that in 1982 and 1988, out of 833 appeals in respect of vacancies oral hearings were ordered in only nine, one in 1982, one in 1986 and none in 1987 or 1988.

Although their Lordships had no background details, his Lordship emphasised that administrative convenience should not be allowed to override the exigencies of a particular case. An oral hearing should be held where in all the circumstances the issues could not be fairly resolved otherwise.

As to documents, there could be no doubt that the appellant was entitled to see any report, recommendations or submissions made by the family practitioner committee and the medical practices committee and indeed all documents before the secretary of state except where public interest immunity or any overriding confidentiality regarding a third party was established.

There had been 87 applicants for the first vacancy. Twelve, including the applicant, were shortlisted. One withdrew and 11 were interviewed.

The applicant was not placed in the first four of those interviewed. Other doctors of Asian origin were placed in the first four by the family practitioner committee but the applicant was not.

It justified its appointment of the successful candidate on the basis that she was the outstanding applicant and her proposals were more cogent and detailed than those of Dr Gandhi who had appealed.

His Lordship concluded that the decision by the secretary of state to dispense with an oral hearing could not be validly criticised.

The applicant clearly had not provided proposals which were as detailed or satisfactory as those of other applicants. The successful applicant had made a very good impression, other doctors of Asian origin had recently been appointed to vacancies and four were placed ahead of the applicant in this case.

His allegation of racial motives was a bare assertion. Apart from a passage in the family practitioner committee report, which admittedly referred to racial distinctions, there was no hint of discrimination in the papers. No crucial conflicts of evidence on the facts required resolution.

It was, in his Lordship's judgment, within the discretion of the secretary of state to take the view that he did on an oral hearing.

As to documents, the position was different. The letters of the family practitioner committee and medical practices committee and the family practitioner committee's report were not disclosed to the applicant. It had not been explained why.

Whatever the reason it was conceded that the documents should have been disclosed. The applicant was deprived of the opportunity of responding to adverse points made about him.

In *re D (a Minor)* Before Lord Justice Fox, Lord Justice Balcombe and Lord Justice Stocker (Judgment December 21)

The court had power to make an adoption order for a purpose other than the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of the child during the remainder of his childhood, but the court had no power to make an order restraining certain named parties from having contact with the child.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment dismissing an appeal by the child's mother and a cross-appeal by the child's adopters from a judgment of Mr Justice Thorpe.

Mr David M. Harris, QC and Miss Ruth Howe for the mother; Mr Mark Hedley for the adopters and the local authority; Miss Judith Daley for the guardian *ad litem*.

LORD JUSTICE BALCOMBE, giving the judgment of the court, said that two issues of importance on the law of adoption had been raised.

It was essential, for the court to be able to make an adoption order in respect of a child, that there should be established a need to safeguard and promote the welfare of the child during the remainder of his childhood?

2 On the making of an adoption order, had the court power to make an order restraining certain named parties from having any contact or communication with the child adopted, either before or after the child attained his majority?

The child was born on March 12, 1972. His parents were not married. He was received into voluntary care in September 1980 and since 1984 had lived with foster parents.

In November 1989 the foster parents applied to adopt the child. On March 6, 1990, six days before the child's eighteenth birthday, the judge made an adoption order in their favour but refused to make an order at their suit to restrain the mother and the child's maternal grandfather from having any contact or communication with the child.

The child suffered from a severe degree of mental handicap with autistic features. Those features were likely to be permanent and the child might never be capable of independent living.

The judge accepted that the foster parents cared admirably for the child and that his welfare required that he should remain in their care for the foreseeable future.

Mr Harris submitted that the judge had no power to make an adoption order in respect of the child.

His Lordship rejected the plaintiff's submission that in the absence of express or implied agreement to the contrary the place of performance should be determined by the general rule of English law that the debtor should seek out the creditor at his place of business and pay him there.

His Lordship rejected the plaintiff's submission that in the absence of express or implied agreement to the contrary the place of performance should be determined by the general rule of English law that the debtor should seek out the creditor at his place of business and pay him there.

His Lordship rejected the plaintiff's submission that in the absence of express or implied agreement to the contrary the place of performance should be determined by the general rule of English law that the debtor should seek out the creditor at his place of business and pay him there.

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# Fleet Footed to complete a quick Southwell treble

By MANDARIN  
(MICHAEL PHILLIPS)

FLEET Footed, already twice a winner on Southwell's Fibresand, can complete a 24-day treble in today's Nicholas Nickleby Handicap Hurdle at the Nottinghamshire meeting.

Mary Reveley's gelding opened his seasonal account on New Year's Eve when getting the better of Ebony Star by a short head over today's distance of two miles and followed up over a slightly longer trip nine days later, beating Overt by 2½ lengths.

Both those victories were gained in claiming hurdles but he looks more than capable of taking the step up to handicap company.

Mouradab and Feasible are others in the field with winning form on this particular synthetic surface but Fleet Footed is expected to have their measure.

Rather than take on Fleet Footed as company, Dr Haine runs her recent Southwell winner Mountain Retreat under weight in the Great Expectations Novices' Handicap Hurdle and that decision should pay dividends.

Her younger brother, Tim Thomson Jones, should also be on the mark later in the day



Haine chose easier option for Mountain Retreat

with Singing Forever, who also has a victory over today's course and distance to her credit, in the Design Contractors Juvenile Novices' Hurdle.

If Wolverhampton survives an early morning inspection, Martin Pipe, who completed his fifth successive century of winners at Leicester on Monday, should increase his haul by landing a double with Riverside Boy (1.15) and Don't Be Late (2.45).

Don't Be Late belatedly began her season on a high at Fontwell nine days ago when she romped home by 12 lengths. That victory was an extension of the winning se-

quence that she began at Devon and Exeter last May and included other victories at Taunton and Carmel.

Riverside Boy, my selection for the Staying Conditional Jockeys Novices' Hurdle, is effectively a winner without a penalty. He passed the post first at Wolverhampton on New Year's Day only to be demoted for bumping on the run in, thus hampering his two main rivals.

Gawson, my choice for the Estimating Novices' Handicap Chase, made a successful transition from hurdling to chasing at Windsor, also on New Year's Day, in spite of bolting to the start after leaving the paddock.

A confirmed front-runner over hurdles, this high-spirited character was soon in command on the Thameside track. In that sort of form he could well prove too much of a handful for Tribute To Youth.

The two divisions of the Dudley Novices' Chase are best left to Mandrak Shuffie (1.45) and General Highway (3.15).

Mandrak Shuffie has won similar races at Taunton, Hereford and Uttoxeter while General Highway ran well enough in his first chase at

Leicester, where he was runner-up to Henry Mann, to suggest that a race like this should be his for the taking.

If Sedgfield goes ahead, Norton Warrior can record his fourth victory there this season by capturing the Downhill Novices' Handicap Chase having been beaten only a head there three weeks ago after winning three times in a row.

Peter Niven, who landed a four-timer on the course earlier in the season can add to that tally by winning on Cowgate Fountain (1.30), Norval (2.30) and Ballymore Park (4.0).

Cowgate Fountain, who made a heartening start to his jumping career when winning by 10 lengths at Kells after showing promise in bumpers, is napped to follow up in the Skiing Mares Novices' Hurdle.

## Two inspections

Both of today's turf meetings face early morning inspections after heavy frosts on Friday night. Wolverhampton, which is staged at 7.15, and Sedgfield at 7.30. Neither course could have raced yesterday. No problems are reported at Southwell.

## Scudamore may return tomorrow

By RICHARD EVANS

PETER Scudamore is likely to make his riding comeback tomorrow, just 76 days after breaking his left leg in a fall at Market Rasen tomorrow.

The decision by Dr Michael Allen, the Jockey Club's medical consultant, to give the champion jockey the all-clear today even Scudamore by surprise yesterday. He expected to be sidelined for at least another week before resuming racing.

Jubilant Scudamore left Portman Square and immediately telephoned Martin Pipe and Charlie Brooks, who will both be saddling runners at Market Rasen tomorrow.

Following his injury, Scudamore did not ride at all until last Thursday and shocked over hurdles for the first time since Sunday. But Dr Allen is convinced the leg is now fully recovered.

"I have been feeling better and better all week," Scudamore said. "I asked Dr Allen if my left leg was as strong as my right leg. He told me it was and that it would be even stronger with the protective plastic cover on it. I feel 100 per cent."

Scudamore's unexpectedly quick return gives him a good chance of retaining the jockey's title. He is currently 20 winners behind Richard Dunwoody.

Ladbrokes, having offered 2-1 on Scudamore at the start of business yesterday, finished the day with the champion at 5-4 and Dunwoody at 11-10 on money. Corals go 11-10 on each of two.

# RCA plan under heavy fire from Levy Board

## Budge may be key Doncaster figure

By RICHARD EVANS

THE increasingly bitter power struggle within racing escalated yesterday when the Jockey Club and the Horserace Betting Levy Board turned on the Racecourse Association (RCA) with a vengeance.

The RCA insists tomorrow to consider a plan proposing the creation of a new British racing authority to take over the administration of the sport. Racing's leaders were already upset by the proposals and their timing, but yesterday they were infuriated by the remarks of Ian Phipps, the RCA's publicity director, who said the racecourses were fed up with being treated like second and third division football teams by the Jockey Club and Levy Board.

Tristram Ricketts, chairman of the Levy Board, said: "How can one take seriously a trade association which criticises an organisation which, in the current financial year, is giving racecourses over £25 million in interest free loans, £2.5 million in daily grants, £250,000 in fire and safety grants, £250,000 in abandonment payments and is contributing £22

million towards prize-money for races run at their courses? We are also relieving them of payment of integrity services totalling over £9 million.

"The levy is for the benefit of racing as a whole. It was not designed as a payment for seasonal interest. We would look to the Jockey Club and Horseracing Advisory Council (HAC) to develop a leadership role for the racing industry rather than to a particular seasonal interest," he added.

The RCA has criticised the Jockey Club for lack of consultation, among other things, and said the press and other bodies often knew of decisions before racecourses had been informed.

The Jockey Club is seething privately at such accusations. It claims the RCA has been kept fully informed and involved and if the racecourses have not known what was happening, the RCA is to blame.

A Jockey Club statement issued yesterday said: "In recent months the Jockey Club and HAC have taken several steps to improve standards on race-

courses. These include crowd control measures, the provision of horse ambulances, better medical services, and improvements in turf management. The stewards have also approved in principle the need to upgrade the standard of stable hygiene.

In every case the RCA has been fully involved in the detailed and frequently lengthy discussions which have resulted in better facilities for horses, jockeys and racecourses.

"In order to help individual racecourse executives, who may not have been aware of what has been agreed, in future we will send copies of all relevant press releases direct to clerks of the course."

Whatever the rights and wrongs may be as the crossroads develop between racing's main institutions, the outside world can only prove unhelpful at a critical time for the sport.

Lord Harrington, senior steward of the Jockey Club, stressed in his Gimcrack speech the need for racing to speak with one voice.

TONY Budge, a Jockey Club member and leading racehorse owner, could soon play a key role in the future running of Doncaster racecourse. It was disclosed yesterday a plan involving Budge to take over the administration of the course, which he hopes will receive Whitehall approval. "Our local people have contacted them and we understand they are very interested," he said.

Budge and the council first came together to finance the cost of the £3.5 million St Leger stand at Town Moor, opened in September, following a failure to gain Levy Board assistance.

Gillies said his council now wanted to extend the joint venture concept to the running of Town Moor. Three representatives of Budge's companies and a trio of council representatives would join forces on a new body to supervise the running of the racecourse.

"This would be the best of both worlds because we would be complying with the Government by bringing in a company from outside and the council would still own the racecourse," Gillies said.

The management of all local authority-owned sports facilities will have to be put out to tender by January next year as a result of Government legislation. Doncaster is one of the small

number of council-owned racecourses in Britain.

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## Selections

By Mandarin  
1.40 Mountain Retreat.  
2.10 Ha'penny Nap.  
2.40 Fleet Footed.  
3.10 Reef Native.  
3.40 Singing Forever.  
4.10 Fleet Footed.

By Michael Seely  
2.10 Silks Domino. 2.40 Fleet-Ess. 4.10 KEYNES (nap).  
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.40 LETTERWE.

## Guide to our in-line racecard

1 115148 GOOD TIMES 10 (P) (A) (B) (C) (D) (E) (F) (G) (H) (I) (J) (K) (L) (M) (N) (O) (P) (Q) (R) (S) (T) (U) (V) (W) (X) (Y) (Z) (AA) (AB) (AC) (AD) (AE) (AF) (AG) (AH) (AI) (AJ) (AK) (AL) (AM) (AN) (AO) (AP) (AQ) (AR) (AS) (AT) (AU) (AV) (AW) (AX) (AY) (AZ) (BA) (BB) (BC) (BD) (BE) (BF) (BG) (BH) (BI) (BJ) (BK) (BL) (BM) (BN) (BO) (BP) (BQ) (BR) (BS) (BT) (BU) (BV) (BW) (BX) (BY) (BZ) (CA) (CB) (CC) (CD) (CE) (CF) (CG) (CH) (CI) (CJ) (CK) (CL) (CM) (CN) (CO) (CP) (CQ) (CR) (CS) (CT) (CU) (CV) (CW) (CX) (CY) (CZ) (DA) (DB) (DC) (DD) (DE) (DF) (DG) (DH) (DI) (DJ) (DK) (DL) (DM) (DN) (DO) (DP) (DQ) (DR) (DS) (DT) (DU) (DV) (DW) (DX) (DY) (DZ) (EA) (EB) (EC) (ED) (EE) (EF) (EG) (EH) (EI) (EJ) (EK) (EL) (EM) (EN) (EO) (EP) (EQ) (ER) (ES) (ET) (EU) (EV) (EW) (EX) (EY) (EZ) (FA) (FB) (FC) (FD) (FE) (FF) (FG) (FH) (FI) (FJ) (FK) (FL) (FM) (FN) (FO) (FP) (FQ) (FR) (FS) (FT) (FU) (FV) (FW) (FX) (FY) (FZ) (GA) (GB) (GC) (GD) (GE) (GF) (GG) (GH) (GI) (GJ) (GK) (GL) (GM) (GN) (GO) (GP) (GQ) (GR) (GS) (GT) (GU) (GV) (GW) (GX) (GY) (GZ) (HA) (HB) (HC) (HD) (HE) (HF) (HG) (HH) (HI) (HJ) (HK) (HL) (HM) (HN) (HO) (HP) (HQ) (HR) (HS) (HT) (HU) (HV) (HW) (HX) (HY) (HZ) (IA) (IB) (IC) (ID) (IE) (IF) (IG) (IH) (II) (IJ) (IK) (IL) (IM) (IN) (IO) (IP) (IQ) (IR) (IS) (IT) (IU) (IV) (IW) (IX) (IY) (IZ) (JA) (JB) (JC) (JD) (JE) (JF) (JG) (JH) (JI) (JJ) (JK) (JL) (JM) (JN) (JO) (JP) (JQ) (JR) (JS) (JT) (JU) (JV) (JW) (JX) (JY) (JZ) (KA) (KB) (KC) (KD) (KE) (KF) (KG) (KH) (KI) (KJ) (KL) (KM) (KN) (KO) (KP) (KQ) (KR) (KS) (KT) (KU) (KV) (KW) (KX) (KY) (KZ) (LA) (LB) (LC) (LD) (LE) (LF) (LG) (LH) (LI) (LJ) (LK) (LM) (LN) (LO) (LP) (LQ) (LR) (LS) (LT) (LU) (LV) (LW) (LX) (LY) (LZ) (MA) (MB) (MC) (MD) (ME) (MF) (MG) (MH) (MI) (MJ) (MK) (ML) (MN) (MO) (MP) (MQ) (MR) (MS) (MT) (MU) (MV) (MW) (MX) (MY) (MZ) (NA) (NB) (NC) (ND) (NE) (NF) (NG) (NH) (NI) (NJ) (NK) (NL) (NM) (NO) (NP) (NQ) (NR) (NS) (NT) (NU) (NV) (NW) (NX) (NY) (NZ) (OA) (OB) (OC) (OD) (OE) (OF) (OG) (OH) (OI) (OJ) (OK) (OL) (OM) (ON) (OO) (OP) (OQ) (OR) (OS) (OT) (OU) (OV) (OW) (OX) (OY) (OZ) (PA) (PB) (PC) (PD) (PE) (PF) (PG) (PH) (PI) (PJ) (PK) (PL) (PM) (PN) (PO) (PP) (PQ) (PR) (PS) (PT) (PU) (PV) (PW) (PX) (PY) (PZ) (QA) (QB) (QC) (QD) (QE) (QF) (QG) (QH) (QI) (QJ) (QK) (QL) (QM) (QN) (QO) (QP) (QQ) (QR) (QS) (QT) (QU) (QV) (QW) (QX) (QY) (QZ) (RA) (RB) (RC) (RD) (RE) (RF) (RG) (RH) (RI) (RJ) (RK) (RL) (RM) (RN) (RO) (RP) (RQ) (RR) (RS) (RT) (RU) (RV) (RW) (RX) (RY) (RZ) (SA) (SB) (SC) (SD) (SE) (SF) (SG) (SH) (SI) (SJ) (SK) (SL) (SM) (SN) (SO) (SP) (SQ) (SR) (SS) (ST) (SU) (SV) (SW) (SX) (SY) (SZ) (TA) (TB) (TC) (TD) (TE) (TF) (TG) (TH) (TI) (TJ) (TK) (TL) (TM) (TN) (TO) (TP) (TQ) (TR) (TS) (TT) (TU) (TV) (TW) (TX) (TY) (TZ) (UA) (UB) (UC) (UD) (UE) (UF) (UG) (UH) (UI) (UJ) (UK) (UL) (UM) (UN) (UO) (UP) (UQ) (UR) (US) (UT) (UU) (UV) (UW) (UX) (UY) (UZ) (VA) (VB) (VC) (VD) (VE) (VF) (VG) (VH) (VI) (VJ) (VK) (VL) (VM) (VN) (VO) (VP) (VQ) (VR) (VS) (VT) (VU) (VV) (VW) (VX) (VY) (VZ) (WA) (WB) (WC) (WD) (WE) (WF) (WG) (WH) (WI) (WJ) (WK) (WL) (WM) (WN) (WO) (WP) (WQ) (WR) (WS) (WT) (WU) (WV) (WW) (WX) (WY) (WZ) (XA) (XB) (XC) (XD) (XE) (XF) (XG) (XH) (XI) (XJ) (XK) (XL) (XM) (XN) (XO) (XP) (XQ) (XR) (XS) (XT) (XU) (XV) (XW) (XX) (XY) (XZ) (YA) (YB) (YC) (YD) (YE) (YF) (YG) (YH) (YI) (YJ) (YK) (YL) (YM) (YN) (YO) (YP) (YQ) (YR) (YS) (YT) (YU) (YV) (YW) (YX) (YY) (YZ) (ZA) (ZB) (ZC) (ZD) (ZE) (ZF) (ZG) (ZH) (ZI) (ZJ) (ZK) (ZL) (ZM) (ZN) (ZO) (ZP) (ZQ) (ZR) (ZS) (ZT) (ZU) (ZV) (ZW) (ZX) (ZY) (ZZ)

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## BOXING

## Watson is planning some big pay days

By SRIKUMAR SEN  
BOXING CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL Watson, who has spent the last ten months looking on from the outside, returns to serious boxing tonight. The Commonwealth middleweight champion defends his title against Craig Trotter, of Australia, at the International Centre, Brentwood.

A successful defence will put Watson back on the road to big money. For too long Watson has watched Nigel Benn cashing in on the big money that he withstood for six rounds, before landing one of his own on Benn and knocking him out in Finsbury Park in 1989.

Watson has boxed only once since being stopped in the eleventh round, by Mike McCann, of Jamaica, the World Boxing Association champion, last April. In November, Watson knocked out Errol Christie, who is little more than an empty shell these days, in three rounds on the same show at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, in which Benn made another pact, £400,000, when losing to Chris Eubank.

Watson's failure to capitalise on his memorable success over Benn, when he showed the world how to deal with the Dark Destroyer, is believed to have caused his break with his manager, Mickey Duff.

Until a judgment in court on the contractual dispute with Duff, Watson is managing himself and talking about bouts with Matthew Hilton and Doug Dewitt, two former world champions, Eubank and even about meeting Michael Nunn, the International Boxing Federation champion, at the Arsenal football ground.

But first he has to deal with Trotter. Little is known about the Australian, except that he comes from Ferntree Gully, Victoria, works as a fitter and turner and has had 19 contests, of which he has won 16, and knocked out nine of his opponents. But none of them have been in Watson's class.

Trotter is a good boxer and has a nice left hook which Watson must watch out for, but he is clearly not a heavy puncher. He took eight rounds to stop Renato Santos, of Brazil, whom Eubank knocked out with the first blow of the first round of their contest.

In Trotter's second bout with Lou Cafaro for the Australian title, Trotter was stopped in the eleventh round with punches to the body. Michael Watson's publicity blurb is headed "Only Fools and Aussies", but Watson should know you can never write off an Aussie.

Chris Eubank may be a world middleweight champion, but he is not the best in Britain. Herd Graham, the British champion from Sheffield, is still tops. That is the view of Chris Eubank. Eubank, who defends his World Boxing Organisation title against Don Sherry, of Canada, on February 23, said yesterday only two men could beat him: Graham and Michael Nunn, the International Boxing Federation champion. "Graham would not hurt me but he would go tap, tap, tap and beat me. Nunn is a southpaw and 6ft 2in. I'll fight anyone but not southpaws."

Eubank had a word of advice for Nigel Benn and Michael Watson if they wanted to challenge him: "Benn should go away and win a world title and bring it back for me," and Watson should be respectful. "I don't want anybody to earn a penny from fighting me if they are disrespectful."

## Novotna emphasises the extent of Graf's decline at the Australian Open

## No mercy for the champions

FROM ANDREW LONGMORE  
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT  
MELBOURNE

DEFEATS for the defending champion, Steffi Graf, and the US Open champion, Gabriela Sabatini, in the quarter-finals of the Australian Open have already borne out predictions that 1991 will be the year of equality in women's tennis.

Graf was beaten by Jana Novotna, of Czechoslovakia, in three sets, the first time since the French Open in 1986 that she has lost at such an early stage of a grand slam tournament. Ironically, her conqueror then was Hana Mandlikova, Novotna's coach.

The big surprise about Sabatini, the No. 3 seed, was not that she lost to Arantza Sanchez Vicario, but that she lost so tamely. She won just four games off the Spaniard, the No. 6 seed, who is clearly enjoying her first Australian Open. The serve-and-volley game which brought Sabatini the US Open title has gone to her head a little and, time and again, she was left stranded by Sanchez Vicario's returns.

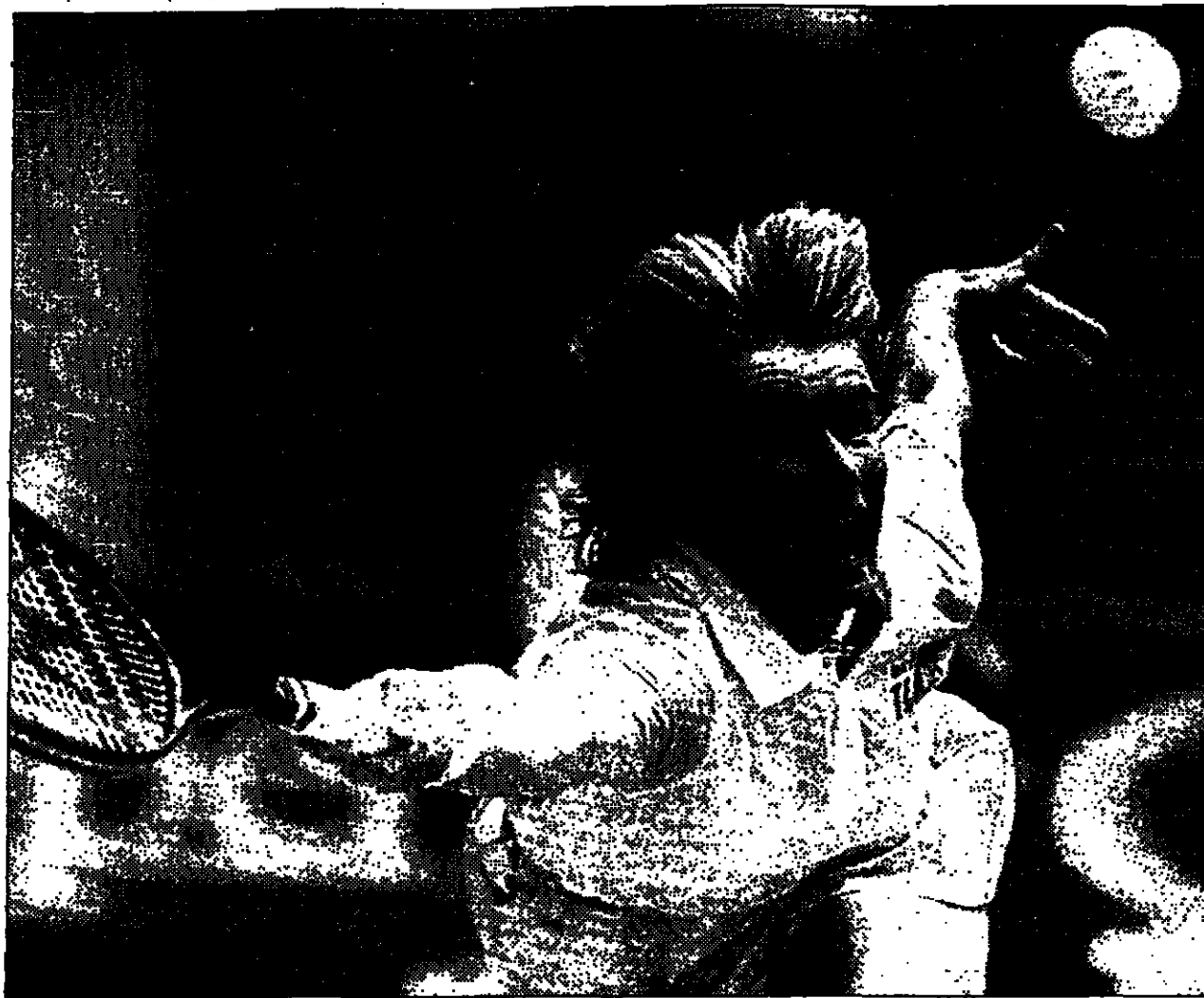
So, after a long chase, the hounds have finally caught the hare. The moment she lost to the 13th best player in the world, Graf became just another member of the pack.

The Australian Open was the last hiding place of the champion, now even that title has gone and the fact that her first defeat in 26 matches at Flinders Park was inflicted by Novotna, who had taken just one set off Graf in nine previous matches, confirmed the pattern of change begun last year when Graf, having won the Australian for the third time, lost to Seles, Garrison and Sabatini in the other three grand slams.

"Players are no longer frightened of playing Graf anymore. In fact, they are looking forward to beating her now and it will show very soon in the rankings," Novotna said. All Graf has left is her No. 1 ranking, a position she has occupied for the last 180 weeks. If Seles wins the Australian Open, even that will be under threat in a month or two.

Though other players are learning to volley and be more aggressive — "aggressive" is the most popular word on the women's circuit these days — the main difference between Graf's play yesterday and, say, a year-and-a-half ago, was in her strength of mind.

Never again can she enjoy the mental supremacy which was so vital to her in close matches, nor will she command such respect. Under guidance from Mandlikova, Novotna purposefully slowed



Stretched to the limit: Novotna strained every muscle to make this return in her quarter-final win over Graf

wait impatiently for almost every point as she went through a ritual towelling down.

"Before I had played the matches at her pace, I wanted to play it at my pace this time," the No. 10 seed explained. It was no way to treat a champion, but it worked.

Having won the first set a trifle luckily, after Novotna had led 4-1 and served for the set, Graf let her opponent back into the match at the start of the second, losing her service twice in the first four games.

If that was puzzling, her hesitancy at the end of the last two sets was even more mysterious. She netted a straightforward backhand to give Novotna the break to 5-4, after she had pulled back to 4-4, and then let slip two break points before slicing a volley wide to lose the set.

Much the same happened in the final set. Serving for the match, Novotna reverted to her old self with a double fault on break point, only for Graf to drop her serve for the fifth time in two sets. Given a second chance, Novotna, her nerves steadied by Graf's own frailty, made no mistake. Graf's tactical confusion

contributed to the downfall. Her game is in transition at the moment and there are only a few signs that the changes are making her a more effective player. She probably spent more time at the net than in any other match in her career, but she will never volley as naturally as Novotna, nor have the timing on her approach. Perhaps she ought to return to her roots on the baseline.

If it is any comfort, Seles is no volleyer either. She pounds away relentlessly with her ground strokes as Anke Huber, the 16-year-old German who lives not far from Graf, will testify. Huber won the first three games while Seles recovered from watching Graf's defeat, then lost 11 of the next 12. "She hits the ball so hard, so early and she is so aggressive..." Huber said of Seles, her senior by a year.

Seles now plays Mary Joe Fernandez in one semi-final, while Sanchez Vicario and Novotna meet in the other. Only Seles holds a grand slam title at the moment, so the burden of continuity now rests with her.

Graf lined up for Federation Cup

STEFFI Graf will spearhead Germany's challenge in the Federation Cup at the Nottingham Tennis Centre from July 21 to 28.

The holders, United States, will be represented by Jennifer Capriati, Mary Joe Fernandez, Zina Garrison and Gigi Fernandez. Spain are expected to include Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and Conchita Martinez.

## Bates approaches men's doubles title

FROM ANDREW LONGMORE

JEREMY Bates, the British No. 1, stayed on course to become the first British player to win a grand slam men's doubles title for 18 years when he and Kelly Jones, of the United States, reached the semi-finals of the Australian Open yesterday. Bates and Jones beat the British Davis Cup player, Nick Brown, and Memo Costing, of The Netherlands, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 on court one.

Bates and Jones, who had not played together regularly before this tournament, now play the strong American pairing of Scott Davis and David Pate, the No. 3 seeds, who had a narrow five-set victory over Brian Garrow and Brad Pearce.

Bates reached the final of the Australian Open in 1988 when he and Peter Lundgren were defeated by Leach and Pugh, but

not since Roger Taylor partnered Cliff Drysdale to win the US Open title in 1972 has a British player won a men's doubles title. The year before, Taylor won the same title with John Newcombe.

Brown and Costing had beaten Gary Muller and Neil Broad, who is now available for Britain's Davis Cup squad, in the previous round, but only got into their quarter-final in the second set when they had points for a 4-0 lead. They missed those, were immediately broken back and never really managed to gain a foothold in the match thereafter.

In the boys' singles, Paul Robinson, the No. 11 seed, had a straightforward victory over the Australian qualifier, Marcus Edwards, in the first round, but there were defeats for the diminutive Tim Henman and the tall Andrew Richardson.

DOORMUND: Boris Becker will again lead Germany in the Davis Cup when they meet Italy in the first round here from February 1 to 3.

There is no place, though, for Mats Wilander. Although he showed a return to form in the Australian Open, Sjogren said: "He could still have trouble playing two difficult matches in three days on clay."

Yugoslavia have dropped Slobodan Zivonjovic, their playing captain for the past seven years.

RESULTS: 1. M. Graf (Ger.) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 2. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 3. G. Sabatini (Arg.) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 4. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 5. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 6. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 7. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 8. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 9. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 10. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 11. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 12. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 13. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 14. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 15. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 16. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 17. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 18. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 19. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 20. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 21. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 22. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 23. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 24. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 25. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 26. J. Novotna (Czech) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 27. J. 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THE TIMES

## SPORT

## Small success clouded by manager's indecision

From JOHN WOODCOCK  
CARRARA, QUEENSLAND

THE satisfaction to be gained here yesterday from England's first first-class victory of their tour — by ten wickets over Queensland — was somewhat obscured by the commotion caused by the aerobatics which Gower and Morris got up to on Monday afternoon.

First, the cricket. Bowling for the first 110 minutes yesterday morning, in great heat, Small did as much as anybody to clinch England's win. Law and Healy, the two Queenslanders most likely to stand in England's way, both fell to him, Law being startlingly well caught by

Tufnell, diving to his right at mid-off.

McDermott batted well enough to suggest that he will shorten Australia's tail in Friday's fourth Test match, but Small eventually accounted for him as well. With England home and showered by early afternoon, Gooch went so far as to say that "it is better to win than to lose", and Micky Stewart gave Fraser a 50-50 chance of being fit for Friday. But Peter Lush, the manager, wanted until today before passing judgment on Monday's sky-larking.

It is generally agreed that what Gower and Morris did, joyful as it may have been, was ill-advised. It was cer-

tainly highly irregular. The chairman of the England committee, Ted Dexter, who once flew himself and his family to Australia in a light aircraft, would, I am fairly sure, have considered it crazy.

Imagine the Australians are playing Hampshire at Southampton, with the Australians batting. Dean Jones and Mark Taylor both slip away after being out, unbeknown to Allan Border, Bob Simpson and the team manager, to Eastleigh where they hire a couple of Tiger Moths. They then swoop over the county ground at Southampton at approximately the height of the Lord's pavilion, where the not-out batsmen, who know

what is going on, give them a wave.

Had Australia been coming up to a Test match as England are now, the matter would almost certainly have been settled without delay, with the Australian management saying that it was intended as a bit of fun and that they hoped no one had been inconvenienced by it. Had the Civil Aviation Authority taken a poor view — and they are on the warpath here — they would probably have stalled on that one, if it can be put that way. The players would have turned their attentions to the Test match and the Press would have withdrawn.

Instead, even after England had won yesterday, the talk

was not of their more encouraging form so much as of why the case of the Tiger Moths had not been settled. Lush said he was still looking for a chance to talk to Gower, who had eluded him on Monday evening by slipping out to dinner. So the side flew to Adelaide last night in an atmosphere of concealment rather than with the Test match foremost in their minds.

Every manager I have toured with would like Peter Lush, have vetoed the Gower-Morris flight had they been asked. I am sure of that. What complicates the issue now is Gower's involvement. There are those who feel, including a player or two, that there is one

set of rules for him and another for everybody else — that he is specially favoured. Lush, Gooch and Stewart could be feeling let down, or sent up.

It was Gower, after all, who was seen gambling with Lamb, Kerry Packer and Tony Greig at a late hour during the first Test match, when Lamb was one of the not out batsmen. He admits to lacking motivation except in the Test matches. He is given leave when others are not. He is confoundingly casual and ungovernably charming, and already he has scored two bewitching hundreds in the Test series. But if, now, he is for the high jump for his high jinks it is surely high time

someone said so — so that everyone's thoughts should be focused on Friday's Test match.

● PERTH — Two Australian players have condemned the pitch at the WACA ground where the fifth Test of the series will start on February 1 (AFP reports). The Australian vice-captain, Geoff Marsh, and Simon O'Donnell were outspoken in their criticism after the Sheffield Shield match between Western Australia and Victoria had ended here.

Marsh said that cracks, some an inch wide and six inches deep, had developed as the game progressed. O'Donnell said the pitch had contributed to many of the

dismissals. QUEENSLAND: First Innings 286 (S G Law 73, A Healy 56, C J McDermott 56 not out, P C R Tufnell 5 for 108).

Second Innings  
S L Mundy c Russell b Bicknell 2  
P C R Tufnell c Small 6  
G S Hitch c Atherton b Bicknell 14  
P L Cairns c Russell b Malcolm 0  
S G Law c Tufnell b Small 42  
P L Taylor c Malcolm b Small 42  
T A Healy c Russell b Small 29  
C J McDermott c Russell b Small 18  
T J Morris not out 29  
M S Kaspraporn c Morris b Tufnell 3  
C G Rackemann c Russell b Malcolm 14  
Extras (b 1, nb 5) 16  
Total 176

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10, 2-23, 3-24, 4-28, 5-42, 6-105, 7-134, 8-143, 9-150.  
BOWLING: Malcolm 17.2-4-51-2; Small 17-30-4; Bicknell 9-2-18-2; Tufnell 15-2-51-2; Atherton 3-0-10-0.

ENGLAND XI First Innings 430 (J E Morris 132, R A Smith 108, G A Gooch 55, A J Lamb 55).

Second Innings  
G A Gooch not out 21  
M A Atherton not out 11  
Total (b wkt) 32  
BOWLING: Kaspraporn 6.3-2-18-0; Cairns 4-1-7-0; Mundy 2-0-7-0.

## Referees involved in discussion on professional foul

By IAN ROSS

THE first stage of an ambitious programme designed to bridge the seemingly widening gulf between professional footballers and the game's officials was implemented in Manchester yesterday.

Players, managers, referees and representatives of both the Football League and the Football Association met at Old Trafford for the first of six meetings, to be held over the next three weeks, to discuss the interpretation of the game's rules and regulations, inevitably, with specific reference to the mandatory instruction of July last year by Fifa, the game's governing body, on the professional foul.

The issue dominated the two-hour meeting at which representatives of 11 Football League clubs were joined by many leading referees from the north of England.

The meeting, all "exchange of ideas and opinions," as John Goggins, the Football League's referees' officer, referred to it, was shown video recordings illustrating not only the professional foul but also the recent changes in the offside ruling.

While both sides admitted that the implementation of Fifa's controversial directive had led to misunderstanding, and possible resentment, so far this season, Goggins said that only by discussion could the matter be amicably resolved.

"The thing that comes out

of these sort of meetings is that there is a kind of mutual understanding, almost to the point of sympathy, for each other's point of view," he said. "Managers and players accept that referees have their problems and referees accept that players have their problems."

"We are all in this together. As I said only last week, the referee can make it a symphony or a cat's chorus, and we are hoping for a symphony, if only for 90 minutes," Gordon Taylor, the chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA), said.

As he had done at the recent PFA annual meeting, Taylor called for the use of video evidence to clear those footballers who had been sent off as a direct result of mistaken identity.

"We do not want innocent players sitting in the stands for three weeks when they have done nothing wrong," he said. "Some referees have been big enough, when asked, to admit errors. We do not want them punished for admitting an error, but we would like the appeal system to be categorised a bit more solidly."

Goggins confirmed that the Football League will shortly be writing to every club asking for referees to be supplied with video recordings of the matches at which they officiate.

"It was a suggestion to the Football League prior to the start of this season. We asked

referees would they like that as part of their educational programme and they said they would," Goggins said. "We asked clubs if they would kindly make that facility available to referees, but I have to say the response has been somewhat patchy."

"Some clubs are absolutely magnificent whereas others do not respond at all. The referees here today said that it does help to look at a situation, post-fact, and learn from it."

One club which was not present at yesterday's meeting was Liverpool, the League champions. The absence of a club representative was surprising as only two weeks ago, Kenny Dalglish, the Liverpool manager, had urged referees and clubs to engage in a constructive dialogue about the interpretation of the game's rules after Steve McMahon, the England international, had been sent off during an FA Cup third-round replay against Blackburn.

"There is no reason why Kenny shouldn't attend our next meeting or all the remaining five meetings. We hope that all Football League clubs will be represented before these meetings are over," Olaf Dixon, the executive director of the Football League Executive Staffing Association, said.

"It is sad that anyone who is able to come does not come, but you'll have to ask Mr Dalglish why he didn't turn up this afternoon," Goggins said.



Working out the angles: Girardelli negotiates a pole on his way to capturing the gold medal in the alpine skiing world championship men's slalom. Report, page 38

## Ruthlessness of Parke saves semi-final day

By COLIN MCQUILLAN

DESPITE a disappointing semi-final round on Monday, the Fight For Sight national championships at Eldon Square, Newcastle, maintained their promise of revolution by producing a men's final between Simon Parke, of Yorkshire, and Paul Gregory, of Surrey.

The women's championship, conversely, arrived at another of the increasingly common domestic confrontations between Martine Le Moignan of Hampshire, aged 28, and Suzanne Horner of Yorkshire, aged 27.

Parke, the world junior champion, aged 18, was the saviour of a semi-final night that lost its main attraction when Peter Marshall, the No. 1 seed, from Leicester, went down with food poisoning. A restful progress was thus assured for Gregory, aged 22, a tough and seasoned professional who has patiently pursued a breakthrough while his new-generation peers have hogged the headlines.

While Gregory, the No. 5 seed, enjoyed a playful exhibition match with Jonah Barrington, the England coach, Parke was required to deal ruthlessly with Tony Hands, an unseeded 21-year-old, from Essex, who gave good value for a game but showed the effects of a long giant-killing campaign.

Would that the women's semi-final challengers had competed so well. Lucy Souter, the fourth-seeded defending champion, seemed almost disinterested in resisting Le Moignan, who was in her most rampant mood. Sue

Wright, the young No. 6 seed, who advanced at the expense of Lisa Opie, the injured No. 1 seed, was not good enough to impede Horner, even during her usual nervous opening spell.

It was with relief that the Eldon Square crowd embraced the relentless strategies of Parke against Hands. For 34 minutes he played his older but less experienced opponent back to the corner with a 9-6 first game, but then reeling him in with an almost sadistic efficiency that beguiled even the single point squeezed by Hands late in the fourth game.

Marshall, aged just 19 but a deadly force in recent domestic affairs with his straight and deceptive game, has had misfortune in national championships before. Two years ago, on his way to Bristol, he was held up by massive traffic jams and disqualified after arriving late for a first round, having run five miles down the M6 and spent £50 on taxis.

Opie, for ten years the dominant force in British squash but always the bridesmaid in international affairs, is becoming used to disappointment. In the women's world championships late last year, she threatened to retire after a badly refereed defeat, but in Newcastle she seemed prepared to concentrate on returning to fitness for another assault upon the British Open in April.

FIGHT FOR SIGHT NATIONAL SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS: Semi-finalists: P Gregory (Surrey) vs P Marshall, scr: S Parke (Yorkshire) vs A Horner (Essex), 6-8, 9-0, 9-0. Women's 5th round: S Wright (Kent), 9-7, 9-5, 9-3, M Le Moignan (Hants) vs L Souter (Glos), 5-9, 9-2, 9-0.

## White does his homework

By STEVE ACTESON

JIMMY White swept aside the weary challenge of Brady Gollan, of Canada, winning 7-0 in only 80 minutes to reach the last eight of the Mita World Masters in search of his third successive title and the record first prize of £200,000 in Birmingham last night.

The previous night, White had not come off table until 12.45am, his unbeaten run of 15 matches ending as he and Tony Meo, the No. 5 seeds, were surprisingly beaten 7-6 on a tie-break by Ken Doherty, of Ireland, and Franky Chan, of Hong Kong.

Gollan, however, had to play another two hours before winning his men's doubles match. After seeing White race in breaks of 109, 55, 53, 64 and 54, Gollan said: "I only had five hours sleep but that really didn't have a bearing on it, the simple fact is that Jimmy is playing the best snooker in the world right now."

Stephen Hendry, who has lost to White in the last two tournament finals, was himself overturned in the Masters third round by James Wattana, of Thailand, in the

evening. Wattana consolidated that surprise victory last night by defeating Joe Johnson 7-4.

White, aged 28, has been lately realised that serious regular practice really does make perfect but also did his homework in preparation for Gollan, saying: "I had my spies out to watch him beat Neal Foulds in the previous round, I knew exactly the type of game to play against him and it worked perfectly."

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## Tuffs faces drugs enquiry

By KEITH MACKLIN

SIMON Tuffs, a Bradford Northern forward, will face a three-man medical team from the Rugby Football League (RFL) tomorrow after a positive drugs test in the Leeds v Bradford Northern game on Boxing Day.

For Tuffs, a young reserve who was brought into the senior side for the game at Leeds, this ordeal may prove to have come about because he drank the wrong sort of cough mixture or tonic on the morning of the match, thereby taking a minute quantity of an amphetamine stimulant.

According to David Oxley, the League's chief executive, at the start of each season all players in the RFL are sent a list of proscribed drugs and medicines containing them.

He said: "This is only the fourth positive test in the four years of their existence, and the previous three ended with no further action being taken. What can happen, and may well also have happened in this case, is that a player feels a little out of sorts on the morning of the match, goes to the cupboard, and has a dose of one of several proprietary

medicines which contain proscribed drugs."

The League refused to release Tuffs's name, which was obtained from other sources. Oxley said: "If, as in the other cases, the League's medical team decides that no further action is required, the release of the player's name could cause him embarrassment. We would prefer to wait until such time as deliberate taking of a performance-enhancing drug is suspected."

The League's pride is that no cases of deliberate drug abuse have been found.

## The challenges that are facing English football

By TED CROKER

IN THE improvement to its stadiums, in the interpretation of its laws, and in its international stature, English football must get to work as a matter of urgency.

The venue for the World Cup finals in 1998 will be decided within the next 18 months, and nobody has a more justified claim than England to be the host country. One of the reasons why we could be worthy hosts is, regrettably, the Hillsborough tragedy, which led to the Taylor report and its insistence that all the leading grounds have to be all-seater by the mid-1990s.

The best news I have heard for a long time was from Arthur Sandford, the chief executive of the Football League: he said it was vital for a club that earned promotion within the League to satisfy certain criteria on its stadium before being permitted to move up. None of us who value incentives and promotion and relegation wants such restrictions, but it is the only way to ensure that the standards at the top are drastically improved.

By 1998, we must have at least the 12 grounds up to the World Cup standards required by Fifa, football's international governing body. There is no need to be overawed by



the estimated \$375 million spent by Italy on building and refurbishing stadiums for the 1990 World Cup finals: no other country has to consider that level of investment.

We have one ace to play already. If most players in the world were asked where they would most like to play an international match, the answer surely would not be the Olympic Stadium in Rome, the Maracana in Rio or the Santiago Bernabeu in Madrid. It would be Wembley Stadium, which is still the Mecca of football.

Football has an important part to play, too, in any British attempt to stage the Olympics in the year 2000. There is no doubt we can win, if the chosen candidate is London. Regrets to Manchester, but I firmly believe London would be a better candidate. Whether the dissolution of the Greater London Council has made such a united effort more difficult, I do not know, but a co-ordinated bid is urgent and essential.

I must, by the way, ask how long will it be before the International Olympic Committee gives the Games to a country, not a city? The

requirements of a modern Olympics invariably extend well beyond any city boundaries: a bid by a country instead of a city would avoid a repeat of the scandalous situation of giving the Games to the United States twice in 12 years.

Football is very important to the Olympic Games. In both Los Angeles in 1984 and Seoul in 1988, football attracted the most support, 1.4 million and 743,000 respectively. Before the Birmingham bid for the 1992 Games, I escorted Dr João Havelange, the president of Fifa, around the football grounds in the Midlands. He was not impressed. Aston Villa looked good, as did West Bromwich Albion, but, with the exception of Villa, he was not happy about the capacity after the essential conversion to all-seater. I was convinced that his report contributed substantially to Birmingham's failure.

Knowing that Barcelona was a serious rival to Birmingham, I asked Dr Havelange what grounds there were near Barcelona other than the magnificent Nou Camp. He said such details would be included in the bid and were confidential. We now know that included in the venues are Zaragoza and Valencia, 250km and 350km respectively, from Barcelona; the

final will, of course, take place at Nou Camp.

Wembley is a vital part of a bid and could be the winning card if London is the British candidate for the year 2000.

Football also has to work on the interpretation of its laws. They are simple compared with other major sports; it is the application of them that is the problem.

The media often adds to the confusion. How many times during the World Cup were goalkeepers criticised for moving before the ball was kicked from the penalty spot. Why should not they? The law says only that a goalkeeper must not move his feet before the ball is kicked; if one watches closely, it is surprising how much upper-body movement can be achieved before the feet move.

Foul or abusive language is back in the headlines. Those of us who talk to referees' associations know that one of the first questions is "What is foul language?" Should the word "foul" be removed so that we are left with "abusive language", which may or may not include foul language?

I believe that referees are faced

with a difficult choice because the law also says a player shall be cautioned if "he shows by word or action dissent from any decision given by the referee". Fortunately, it is this law that referees must use. As an international referee said recently, if every player who swore in a match was sent off, he would finish the match on his own.

Finally, English and the rest of European football can be influential in reducing the Latin influence in international sports administration — like Dr Havelange, Juan Antonio Samaranch, the president of the IOC, and Primo Nebiolo, the president of the International Amateur Athletic Federation.

If Robert Atkins, the minister for sport, with the help of a sports-minded prime minister, needs a target, I suggest it is to encourage English and British sports' governing bodies to go for more influence in world sport, using, where appropriate, paid administrators if they are of the right calibre and ensuring that they are all pulling in the same direction when bidding for major events.

● TED CROKER is the former secretary of the Football Association

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